

# ARMY



# NAVY

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REGULAR

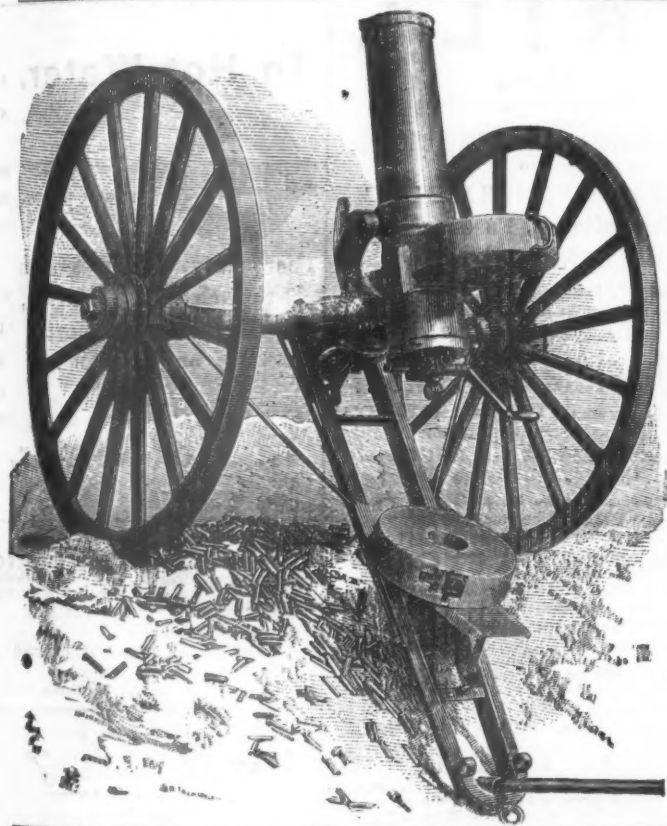
## JOURNAL.

AND VOLUNTEER  
FORCES.

VOLUME XL—NUMBER 96.  
WHOLE NUMBER 1066.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1884.

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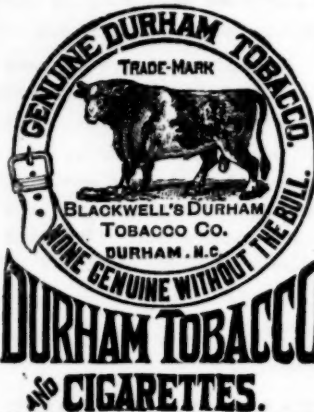
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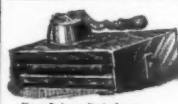


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# ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL

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## PERSONAL ITEMS.

**SURGEON** William E. Waters, U. S. A., started from Sackett's Harbor, this week, to be absent until the first week in February.

**LIEUTENANT** Philip Roade, 3rd Infantry, has taken charge of recruiting matters at Fort Shaw, Montana.

**COLONEL** D. H. Brotherton, U. S. A., of Fort Snelling, will spend the next seven or eight weeks on leave in Texas.

**LIEUTENANT** S. C. Mills, 12th U. S. Infantry, was a guest at Barnum's Hotel, Baltimore, early this week.

**ADJUTANT** G. H. Kinzie, 15th U. S. Infantry, has opened a Recruiting Office at Fort Buford, Dakota.

**PREPARATIONS** are being made at Governor's Island for the return of Major General Hancock, U. S. A., and party, which will be within a few days.

**REAR** Admiral Taylor, U. S. N., and family, are at Beaufort, S. C.

**GENERAL** J. H. King, U. S. A., retired, is spending a portion of the winter at Old Point Comfort.

**COLONEL** C. L. Best, U. S. A., rejoined at Fort Adams, R. I., this week, from a visit to New York and vicinity.

**LIEUTENANT** T. R. Adams, 5th U. S. Artillery, rejoined at Governor's Island, this week, from Philadelphia, whither he went to attend the deathbed and funeral of his father.

**CAPTAIN** Carl F. Palfrey, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., will shortly take up his residence at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**LIEUTENANT** C. E. Bottsford, 10th U. S. Infantry, in charge of the guard at Lake View Cemetery, visited Fort Wayne, Mich., this week on Court-martial service and afterwards returned to Cleveland.

**COLONEL** A. C. Wildrick, U. S. A., paid a visit to New York, early in the week.

**LIEUTENANT** B. M. Rogers, 2nd U. S. Artillery, rejoined at Washington Barracks, D. C., this week from a short holiday.

**LIEUTENANT** J. B. Aleshire, 1st Cavalry, of Fort Walla Walla, will spend most of January, February and March, on leave.

**A DISPATCH** says that in Berlin, society circles are discussing a report that the night sentinels at the royal castle saw at midnight recently the traditional spirit of the "White Lady" walking in the corridors of the castle. The legend is that the spirit of the Countess Orlamunde appears, warning the people of the approaching death of the head of the Hohenzollern family.

**THE** Oneida Historical Society is rejoicing that all the money needed for the completion of the tablets for the monument to Gen. Herkimer, at Oriskany, has at length been secured. The monument will be ready for dedication early next summer.

**CAPT.** H. C. Ward, 16th U. S. Infantry, was expected to report to General Shafter in New York, this week, to conduct recruits to Dakota.

**LIEUT.** COL. Alex. Piper, 33d U. S. Artillery, still remains at St. Augustine, Fla., awaiting assignment to a post, which will not likely be made until the question of his transfer to the 1st U. S. Artillery, lately under consideration, has been definitely decided upon.

**LIEUT.** COMDR. T. M. Gardner, U. S. Navy, registered at the Grand Central Hotel, New York, early in the week.

**GEN.** G. A. H. Blake, U. S. A., is spending a portion of the winter in Florida.

**WASHINGTON** has no lack of receptions at this season of the year, and amongst the most pleasant are accounted those of Mrs. Sheridan, wife of Lieutenant General Sheridan, which are always well attended.

**GEN.** W. P. CARLIN, U. S. A., has rejoined at Fort Omaha, Nebraska. Colonel Carlin will make a trip from Omaha to Little Rock at an early date to sit as a president of a Retiring Board there.

**GEN.** Sherman, after a trip to New York, returned to Washington early in the week on his way back to St. Louis.

**GEN.** R. C. DRUM, U. S. A., returned to Washington early in the week from a brief visit to Philadelphia.

**LIEUT.** A. Cronkrite, 4th U. S. Artillery, is due at Fort Warren, Mass., the latter part of this week, from a six weeks' vacation.

**LIEUT.** J. W. Pope, 5th U. S. Infantry, and family, late of Fort Leavenworth, were expected to arrive at Fort Keogh, Montana, this week.

**IT** is said there are 2,000 British soldiers in Scotland, and 30,000 in Ireland.

**CONCERNING** the term "Tommy Atkins," as applied to the British soldier, *Notes and Queries* says: "The term arose from a little pocket book, or ledger, at one time served out to British soldiers, in which were to be entered the name, age, date of enlistment, length of service, wounds, medals, etc., of each individual. The War Office sent with each little ledger a form for filling it in, and the 'M or N' selected, instead of the legal 'John Doe' and 'Richard Roe,' was 'Tommy Atkins.' The books were instantly so called, and it did not need many days to transfer the pseudonym from the book to the soldier himself."

**APARTMENTS** at Hampton Court Palace have been offered by Queen Victoria's command to the widow of Capt. Moncrieff, who was recently killed in the Sudan.

**MR.** J. B. Randall tells the story of a black soldier who ran away at Murfreesboro battle, and was asked if he thought any one would have missed him had he been killed. "No," he replied, "they don't miss white men, much less niggers; but I would have missed myself, and that's the point with me."

**G. CLINTON GARDNER**, Esq., recently elected president of the Buffalo, New York and Philadelphia Railroad Company, is a son of the late Col. C. K. Gardner, U. S. A., a distinguished officer from 1833 until 1918, and afterwards of the Post Office Department.

**PAYMASTER** Wm. Arthur, U. S. A., has rejoined at Governor's Island from a visit to Washington and resumed his dual duties of local paymaster and acting chief paymaster of the Division of the Atlantic. The Washington *Sunday Herald*, referring to Paymaster Arthur's visit to that city, says: "Major Arthur has discharged his duties as paymaster with great ability and fidelity. Though sometimes suffering from a bad wound, which troubles him very much in cold or damp weather, he took his tour of duty on the frontier without a word, and was there for six years. At present he is the paymaster on Gen. Hancock's staff. Major Arthur is devoted to the service, and his only ambition is to be at the head of his corps." We fully coincide with the *Herald* in its eulogy of the personal and official qualities of Major Arthur, but what it says as to his "ambition" should not be misunderstood, for he is the last man, as those who know him best will testify, to occupy himself with self-seeking, being content to accept what comes with the discharge of duty.

**REFERRING** to the recent marriage of Capt. B. M. Custer, 24th U. S. Infantry, to Miss Mack, which we announced last week, the *Danville Advertiser* says: "At about the appointed time the bridal party, preceded by the ushers, marched up the south aisle. Up the north aisle came Capt. Custer, attended by his best man, Lieut. Kirby, 10th U. S. Infantry, from Buffalo. The two parties met at the altar. The congregation rose and remained standing during the ceremony. Judge Van Derlip gave away the bride. At the conclusion of the ceremony Judge and Mrs. Van Derlip received a large number of guests at their home. The groom was dressed in the full uniform of his rank. Capt. and Mrs. Custer left Danville for New York, and will go thence to Washington and other places South, returning to Danville to spend the first five days of February. The captain's leave of absence expires Feb. 13, before which time they will reach the Indian Territory."

**LIEUT.** Thomas H. Barry, 1st U. S. Infantry, was married to Miss Ellie Bestor at St. John's Church, Washington, on Wednesday evening. Lieut. A. M. Patch, 4th U. S. Cavalry, was "best man," and the ushers were Lieuts. S. C. Mills, 12th Infantry; J. O. Mackay, 3d Cavalry; R. N. Getty and H. C. Hodges, 22d Infantry, and Lieuts. S. C. Lemly and L. K. Reynolds, U. S. Navy. A quiet reception at the residence of the bride's mother followed the wedding. After a brief tour the lieutenant and his bride will go to Arizona.

**ARMY** officers who have been watching the thermometer out in Wyoming or Dakota will perhaps be interested to know that even at Saratoga, the gay summer resort, the mercury fell on the night of Jan. 15 to 30 degrees below zero.

**THE** King of Spain is very popular, a crack shot, and a keen supporter of all field sports. In this respect his sisters resemble him, the Infanta Isabel especially never missing a big battue. Even the ex-Queen, though in her fifty-third year, is occasionally wheeled in her chair to a likely corner, and pops away at the red legged partridges with considerable effect. During the recent visit of the German Crown Prince some capital sport was forthcoming, and a bull-fight, moreover, was provided for his especial behoof, though the ring is always closed in the winter.

**THE** Vancouver *Independent*, of Jan. 10, says: Lieut. H. L. Bailey, 21st Infantry, has gone to San Francisco, on leave. Lieut. F. J. Patten, 21st Infantry, has returned from the East and joined at Fort Boise. Lieut. C. E. S. Wood, 21st Inf., has been granted a month's leave, which he will probably spend in Vancouver. John C. Spinning, 1st Cavalry, who has been in the Army since 1847, died at Fort Walla Walla on New Year's Day.

**GEN.** Miles, accompanied by Major Kimball, U. S. A., left on Tuesday for Fort Canby. There was born to the wife of Lieut. C. H. Bonesteel, 21st Infantry, on Dec. 23, a girl. Very many friends in and out of the Army extend congratulations. Honors and distinction are being showered upon officers of the 21st. Capt. G. M. Downey and S. P. Jocelyn have recently been elected directors of the First National Bank of this city; Lieut. F. H. E. Eberlein has been elevated to the position of Master of Mount Hood Lodge of Masons, and Lieuts. Bonesteel and Farow have recently attained bar and been presented with a daughter each within the past two weeks—and yet the 21st wants to go East! Gen. Nelson A. Miles, U. S. A., most gallantly endeavors to correct an opinion abroad in the land regarding the cause of Gen. Mackenzie's insanity, and from all the sources of information at our command we believe Gen. Miles is right in his opinion. The public can well afford to be charitable towards Gen. Mackenzie, one of the finest officers who ever wore the Army uniform.

**CAPTAIN** G. W. Crabb, 5th U. S. Artillery, left Fort Hamilton N. Y. H., a few days ago on a week's vacation.

**THE** Apache *Rocket*, of Jan. 11, says of Fort Davis, Tex.: "Lieut. Beck has been quite unwell for several days. Lieut. M. M. Maxon was out at the Pinery this week. Whist parties are 'all the rage' now."

**THE** statement that Signor Garcia, the hoaviest *trente et quarante* player of modern, or perhaps, any other, times, is about to enter a monastery, stirs up the recollections of a writer in the London *World*, who says: "I remember him well in the old days at Baden-Baden and Homburg—the days of Hastings, Huntingtower and Wyndham, of Folbrigg—and when there were a-many trying to break the bank, though he alone succeeded. This he did on more than one occasion, (he having a special and increased limit,) and I once saw him hand over 50,000*l.* to a charity after he had done so—a charity for which, by the way, Patti was both singing, and giving her money. At Homburg he carried all before him, and, as the late Mr. Merry remarked, 'shut the tables up like telescopes.' Two or three years back, sitting at a table outside the Café de la Paix, in Paris, a wretched and half-starved looking man took the chair next to mine, and, looking at him, I recognized Garcia. He, however, got up in the world again afterward."

**EX-SPEAKER** Keifer is reported as saying, of the relations between Gen. Sherman and his brother: "They have always been more like playmates together than grown brothers are apt to be. When John Sherman goes into the local club to take the single glass of hot toddy which he allows himself a day, he seems delighted if he finds William there and they can sip their toddy together. William used always if possible to come to the Senate to hear John make a speech, and he would slip into John's seat and listen to him with admiration written in every line of his face. John's eyes always light up when William's military record is alluded to, and he never tires of listening to the tales and anecdotes that are told of William's quaint energy when in the Army. It used to delight the two brothers to get Joe Johnston, Sherman's old antagonist at Bull Run, Atlanta and in North Carolina, at a quiet little dinner where the three could have a good time together."

**THREE** men attacked a sentry on duty at the magazine near Woolwich Arsenal, England, on Monday night of this week. The sentry was performing the duty known as the 'Feuian guard.' The sentry fired upon the miscreants, who, however, made their escape.

**THE** Korean Embassy were in Paris this week, and on Tuesday were presented by Captain R. L. Phythian, U. S. N., to Minister Morton.

**IT** is said that the peculiar sunsets are caused by the sun trying to set by the new standard time, and getting red in the face in the endeavor.

**LIEUT.** S. W. Taylor, 4th U. S. Artillery, of Fort Adams, R. I., visited his brother officers at Fort Preble, Me., this week.

**COL.** E. S. Otis, 20th Infantry, rejoined at Fort Leavenworth, last week, from his brief visit East.

**SOME** of the Western papers having gotten hold of the rumor that General O. O. Howard, U. S. A., is to be sent to command the Department of Arizona, are much exercised thereat, and are regaling their readers with some highly imaginative stories of what would happen should the change be made.

**CAPT.** J. P. Story and Lieut. Walter Howe, U. S. A., of Fort Warren, Mass., registered in Portland, Me., this week, on their way to Fort Preble, on Court-martial duty.

**CAPT.** H. S. Taber, U. S. A., and Mrs. Taber, left St. Paul a few days ago for New York, where they design to spend the remainder of the winter.

**SURG.** W. C. Spencer, U. S. A., and Mrs. Spencer, left St. Paul last week for Philadelphia, to attend the funeral of Mrs. Spencer's mother, who died recently of pneumonia, after a brief illness. They will return to Fort Snelling about the 1st of February.

**LIEUT.** J. W. Danenhower, U. S. N., is on a western tour, with headquarters at Dubuque, Iowa. He will return East about February 1.

**PASSED** Asst. Surg. Robert Whiting, U. S. N., lately in Richmond, Va., has returned to duty at the Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Va., much improved in health.

**THE** Paris *Morning News* says: "The American belle par excellence for the next season in London, vice Miss Chamberlain, retired, will be Miss Julia Jackson, daughter of 'Stonewall' Jackson, the famous Confederate general."

**COL.** C. De Witt Foster, of the Mexican Regular Army, passed through St. Louis, a few days ago, on his way to Adrian, Mich., to meet his mother, who returns with him to Mexico. He was born in New Orleans, joined the ranks of the Mexican Army in 1854, being then only 14 years of age.

**DR.** J. W. Bayne, for many years an A. A. Surgeon, U. S. A., at Fort Foote, Md., and Washington Barracks, D. C., has recently been appointed a police surgeon of the District of Columbia.

**CAPT.** E. J. Spaulding, 2d U. S. Cavalry, was a guest at the Merchants' Hotel, St. Paul, a few days ago.

**GEN.** O. O. Howard, U. S. A., delivered a lecture on "The Battle of Gettysburg," at Kansas City, on the evening of January 17, under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic. There was a large attendance, and, judging from the frequent applause, the General's remarks were fully appreciated.

**LIEUTENANT** W. O. Cory, 15th U. S. Infantry, of Fort A. Lincoln, Dakota, will spend February and part of March, on leave.



COMMANDER John A. Reynolds has issued a general order detailing the arrangements for the eighteenth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, in Rochester, New York, on Wednesday, Jan. 30.

PAYMASTER George H. Griffing, U. S. N., and Mrs. Griffing, are in deep affliction at the death of their daughter, Mary, a child of six years old, who died at Philadelphia, January 17. The funeral ceremonies took place January 19th.

LIEUTENANT J. G. Leefe, 19th Infantry, of Fort Ringgold, Texas, is commanding company A of his regiment at that post, which has none of its officers present for duty with it.

Among those who attended the ball given by Mrs. William Astor, on Monday evening, were: General G. W. Cullum, U. S. A., and Captain Warren C. Beach, U. S. A., and Mrs. Beach.

The 8th U. S. Cavalry can boast of having its twelve captains present for duty with their respective troops, according to latest roster.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE William Winthrop, U. S. A., is residing in San Francisco, quarters at the Presidio being scarce.

CAPTAIN Gambier, of the British Navy, arrived in New York from England, early in the week and registered at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

CHIEF Engineer W. J. Lamdin, U. S. Navy, was a guest at the Gilsey House, New York, early in the week.

THE *London World* says: "The Comtesse de Paris is about to present her husband with another young Orleanist. As the traditions of the family do not permit of children of the house being born out of France unless unavoidably, the *ménage* at San Remo will not continue to exist."

PRESIDENT Arthur has arranged to give an evening reception, especially for the officers of the Army and Navy and Marine Corps, on the 19th of February.

PASSED ASST. SURG. D. M. Guiteras, U. S. N., was married on Monday last to Miss Laura M. Pooli, at the residence of the bride's parents, 25 East 74th street, New York City.

LIEUT. G. S. Hoyt, 18th U. S. Infantry, registered at the Merchant's Hotel, St. Paul, early in the week.

JOHN and Edward Fryer, sons of Surgeon B. E. Fryer, U. S. A., who have been spending the holidays with their parents at Fort Leavenworth, have returned to college at Racine, Wisconsin.

CAPTAIN A. E. Wood, 4th U. S. Cavalry, has rejoined at Fort Stanton, New Mexico, from leave.

GENERAL R. O. Drum and Colonel M. V. Sheridan, U. S. A., registered at the Lafayette Hotel, Philadelphia, the latter part of last week.

QUARTERMASTER J. H. Lord, U. S. A., of Cheyenne, will visit the East at an early date, to remain for seven or eight weeks.

CADET Alexander, who now upholds the credit of the colored race at the Military Academy, seems to have learned the secret of winning the esteem of his fellows. A correspondent of the *New York Times* says: "He seems to know his place, not as a colored cadet, but simply as a cadet, with no more nor no less privileges than the other cadets, and does nothing of an intrusive character. This has won him respect from those who have always been strongly opposed to the admission of the colored man to West Point, and kindly feelings from members of his own class. He has been given to understand plainly that merit alone will be taken into consideration, and that color will not be thought of when the time comes to mark him either up or down in his studies."

ANNOUNCEMENT is made that the marriage of Commander Frederick Pearson, U. S. N., to Miss Leslie J. Ayer, daughter of Mr. F. F. Ayer, will take place at No. 5 West 57th street, New York City, on February 5.

A BAND of Indian pupils from Carlisle Barracks gave an excellent entertainment (recitations, etc.) at the Bedford Reformed Church, Brooklyn, on Monday evening. Captain R. H. Pratt, U. S. A., was present and made an address, and Mrs. George Stannard, President of the Brooklyn Indian Association, explained that the object of the entertainment was to show the public what might be done in the way of practical Indian education.

Mrs. Quailtrough sailed from New York this week for Panama, to join her husband, Lieut. E. F. Quailtrough, U. S. Navy.

LIEUT. F. H. Paine, U. S. N., and others have purchased from Mr. Corcoran 15,000 feet of land, embracing the whole frontage on 16th street, Washington, D. C., on which they are to erect a large apartment house.

THE Queen of Tahiti arrived in San Francisco on Tuesday on a visit to the States.

THE *New York Evening Telegram*, in a long article, describes President Arthur as in poor health, looking tired, gray, and feeble, and so forth, all of which is not only contradicted by Washington despatches to other papers, but by the appearance of the President himself, as seen in New York this week, and by his own statement that he is in excellent condition.

LAST week we referred to the plea for the promotion of lieutenants of artillery after fourteen years' service, and from a printed list gave the names and service of lieutenants coming under its provisions. The total service of Lieut. Jas. Curry, of the 5th Art., as given in the pamphlet from which we quoted, was 26 years and 1 month, but we have since learned that it is an error, and that Lieut. Curry's total service (Regular and Volunteers) is 32 years, 10 months, and 7 days, to Dec. 31, 1883.

THE Army Mutual Association paid the widow of the late Lieut. Samuel B. Colladay, the amount of her benefit, \$2,500 on Monday last.

Mrs. Tiernon, wife of Captain J. S. Tiernon, 3d Artillery, commandant at Fort Barrancas, Fla., who has been ill for some time, is improving slowly since her return from Atlanta to the "Land of Flowers."

AFTER twenty years' service (much of which has been passed at yellow fever stations on the Gulf), Acting Assistant Surgeon Arlaud, of Fort Barrancas, Fla., has been notified of the early annulment of his contract, in accordance with the act of Congress limiting the number and stations of contract surgeons. Dr. Arlaud entered the service during the war as surgeon in the regiment commanded by Gen. de Trobriand, now an officer on the retired list of the Army. His only daughter is the wife of Surgeon Burns, U. S. Army, and one of two sons is a promising medical student in New Orleans.

THE three little children of the late Mrs. Totten, wife of Lieut. C. A. L. Totten, 4th Art., have arrived safely at Fort Barrancas, Fla., where they will reside with their grandparents, Capt. and Mrs. Smith, 3d Art.

Mrs. Cunningham, wife of Dr. Cunningham of the Army, stationed at Mount Vernon Barracks, Ala., is visiting her parents, Capt. and Mrs. Lewis Smith, 3d Art., at Ft. Barrancas, Fla.

LIEUT. E. B. Pratt, and Mrs. Pratt, 23d U. S. Infantry, registered at the Merchants' Hotel, Omaha, a few days ago, on their way East to visit New York, Washington and Boston.

PAYMASTER Geo. R. Watkins, U. S. N., registered at the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia, on Tuesday of this week.

LIEUT. Z. Frazier, of the British Navy, was a guest at the Hotel Brunswick, New York, this week.

THE *Kansas City Morning Journal*, says: "Gen. O. O. Howard, U. S. A., has recently joined the G. A. R. and says he intends to wear the badge to Europe, where he goes for a four months' tour in March."

THE *N. Y. World*, says: "Miss Nellie Arthur is delighted with her handsome uncle William, who has been paying a visit to the White House. The Major's time has been monopolized by the little girl in telling her stories. He has been compelled to fight all his Indian battles over again, and as he is a good story-teller they lose nothing in the telling."

THE officers of the California National Guard gave a reception at the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, January 16, to Major-General Pope, which was a most pleasant affair. General Pope and staff arrived at 8 P. M. After an introduction refreshments were produced, and Major-General Turnbull, of the National Guard, proposed the health of Major-General Pope. His reply was a pleasant and hearty response to the gentleman's good wishes. He said he was in full sympathy with the object and aims of the National Guard, and begged the officers present to be assured of his hearty respect and good will. He tendered them the hospitality of the Presidio and his own home at Black Point, and assured them of a hearty welcome.

PAYER's historical painting, "The Bay of Death," has been awarded the medal of the Munich Academy. It represents the spot identified by Lieutenant Schwatka's expedition as the place where the last of Sir John Franklin's party perished in 1818. This is the first of a series of nine or ten historical paintings portraying the Franklin disaster, founded upon information received from Schwatka's expedition, and they will be about 10x12 feet in dimensions. Payer commanded an Austrian Arctic expedition in 1872-4 and unites a thorough general knowledge of those regions with a painting capability that has secured for him several medals and testimonials from the prominent art galleries of Europe.

GENERAL Wesley Merritt, U. S. A., of West Point, was a guest at the Grand Hotel, New York, on Wednesday.

CAPTAIN S. M. Swigort, 2d U. S. Cavalry, registered in Chicago this week.

CAPTAIN B. M. Custer, U. S. A., and bride, visited Philadelphia this week, having apartments at the Lafayette Hotel.

CAPTAIN G. P. Merrill, of Toledo, Ohio, was in New York this week. He served under General Sherman during the war, and to a reporter related some pleasant anecdotes of the General, winding up by saying: "If he should be nominated for President there isn't a man who was in his Army who wouldn't die to see him succeed."

Mr. Joseph E. Chandler, son of Secretary Chandler of the Navy, was married at Providence, R. I., January 17, to Miss Ada B. Cook.

THE *Norfolk Virginian* says: "We are pleased to see our old friend, Passed Assistant Surgeon Weston Battle, U. S. N., who is attached to the *Gedney*, and who appears to be in a fine state of preservation."

CHAPLAIN F. Thompson, of the *Portsmouth*, who was visiting friends at Washington, was called back to Portsmouth last Sunday by the death of a marine, James Hurley. Chaplain Thompson returned to Washington yesterday.

WE regret to learn of the serious illness in Washington of the mother of Major James Gilliss, U. S. A., chief quartermaster on the staff of General Angur at Fort Leavenworth.

COLONEL E. Otis, 8th Cavalry, will preside over a General Court-martial to meet at San Antonio, February 4, for the trial of Captain A. S. B. Keyes, 10th Cavalry, upon a charge of duplicating pay accounts.

THE Army and Navy were well represented at the reception to President Arthur at the Union League Club, New York, on Wednesday evening. Of the Army there were Generals Z. B. Tower, M. P. Small, H. C. Hodges, I. V. D. Reeve, Wesley Merritt, T. L. Crittenden, Jas. B. Fry, W. D. Whipple, H. D. Wallen; Colonels W. B. Beck, J. H. Jancway and G. L. Gillespie; Judge Advocate Asa Bird Gardner, Major William Arthur, Captains J. S. Wharton, Thomas Ward, G. S. L. Ward, and Lieutenant A. L. Morton. Of

the Navy, Rear Admiral Smith, Commodore Upshur, Pay Director Cunningham, Commander Brown, Colonel Forney, U. S. M. C.; Surgeon E. Kershner, Surgeon Russell, Lieutenant Barry, Lieutenant Fremont, and Paymaster Michler.

GEN. Grant, from his sick chamber, dictates a letter to the *Washington Star* in which he says in relation to the reports that Senor Romero and himself are partners in several Mexican schemes and that they obtained some large concessions from that Government in relation to railroad and steamboat lines, and accordingly desire the ratification of the pending treaty: "Mr. Romero and myself never had in our lives any pecuniary transactions or business transactions of any kind. While I have spent thousands of dollars of my own money and a great deal of time to advance the development of Mexico by United States capital and by American influence, I have not one dollar's interest in all that has been done, and no pecuniary interest whatever in the country, except that I am one of the subscribers to a railroad which lies wholly to the south of the City of Mexico, and the success of which is very doubtful in these times when it is so difficult to raise capital for any such enterprises. There is no steamboat, charter or other monopoly in which I have the slightest pecuniary interest. My whole interest is in developing those relations which I believe ought to exist between contiguous countries, and particularly those of like institutions, and in the case of Mexico I think it more important because of her great undeveloped resources, which must make her soon a commercial state of very great importance." Gen. Grant is slowly improving. Dr. Fordyce Barker, his physician, thinks that he will be well enough to go out in the course of a week or so. He gets up every day and hobbles around the house on crutches.

Mrs. John C. Febiger and her daughter, Miss Johnson, gave a card reception at the residence of the Admiral on H street, Washington, Saturday, the 19th instant, from 4 to 7. It was pronounced one of the most delightful entertainments of the season.

WE have received a photograph of the monument erected at Burlington, Vt., last spring, by the class of 1883, Military Academy, to their classmate, John Bohan, who died September 23, 1882. It is a handsome shaft, properly inscribed, and does honor equally to the living as to the dead.

LIEUT. C. V. Vreeland, U. S. N., was married January 16, at the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, to Miss Tolson, a sister to the wife of Lieutenant C. S. Richman, U. S. N.

THE *Pioneer Press* says: "Captain Chambers McKibbin's Army and civilian friends express themselves much pleased, that the finding of the General Court-martial in his case has confirmed their predictions, and that he has been found guiltless of anything reflecting on his integrity or standing as an officer and gentleman."

THE following officers of the Army registered at the office of the Adjutant General, Washington, D. C., during the current week: Captain William Thompson, retired, 210 4½ street; 2d Lieutenant Stephen C. Mills, 12th Infantry, Ebbitt House, on leave; Brig. General M. D. Hardin, retired, Ebbitt House; Capt. A. L. Varney, Ordnance Department, 1816 H street, on leave; Lieut. John McCellan, 5th Artillery, 1108 F street, N. W., on leave; 2d Lieut. Guy E. Huse, 4th Cavalry, Ebbitt House, on leave; Lieut. A. M. Patch, 4th Cavalry, Ebbitt House, on leave; Lieut. William A. Diddle, 2d Cavalry, 1201 Rhode Island avenue, before Receiving Board; Lieut. F. E. Hobbs, Ordnance Department, on leave; 2d Lieut. George Bell, Jr., 3d Infantry, 337 G street, N. W., on leave; Captain P. L. Lee, 10th Cavalry, Ebbitt House, on sick leave; Lieut. J. O. Mackey, 3d Cavalry, Ebbitt House, on leave; 2d Lieut. Henry C. Hodges, 2d Infantry, 2015 I street, on leave; Major J. P. Farley, Ordnance Department, 1328 I street, under orders from War Department.

THE rain on Thursday somewhat interfered with the reception given at the New York Navy-yard, by Commodore Upshur and the officers at that station, but nevertheless it was a highly successful affair. Commodore and Mrs. Upshur received the guests, among whom were Commander Kane, Mrs. Kane, Chief Engineer Magee, Lieut. Whistler, Captain Price, U. S. A.; Lieut. Garbaugh, U. S. A.; Medical Inspector J. C. Spear, Commander Robeson, Mrs. Robeson, Pay Inspector Clarke, Captain Meeker, U. S. M. C.; Lieut. Gurney, Medical Director Dean, Mrs. Dean, Pay Inspector, Stevenson, Lieut.-Commander Hubbard, Mrs. Hubbard, Lieutenant A. Ward, Mrs. Ward, Assistant Engineer Bowers, Mrs. Bowers, Commander J. C. Watson, Mrs. Watson, Admiral and Mrs. Walke, Lieut. Raschenberger, Mrs. Webb, Civil Engineer Prindle, and Mr. Hart.

Mrs. EUGENE FAWCETT, of Santa Barbara, Cal., who has been in Washington during the past three weeks visiting her Army and Navy friends, left for Boston, Mass., on Wednesday last.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

#### KEY WEST, FLA.

In your issue of the 5th instant mention is made of a shooting affray in which Paymaster Jordan's clerk, Mr. George Hudson, was shot. In justice to Mr. Hudson it should be stated that he was the victim of an unprovoked and unwarranted attack by City Solicitor Browne and others, that he was unarmed, and, while defending himself as best he could under the circumstances, was cowardly shot by Browne. Mr. Hudson after being shot wrested the revolver from his assailant. The affray took place on Christmas night, while Mr. Hudson was returning to his room from the house of a friend. True at such on the part of Browne, was actuated by a spirit of prejudice and hatred, and was not owing to any family trouble. Browne has been arrested and is under bonds for trial.

Messrs. Porter and Coates have published "A True History of the Charge of the Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry at Chancellorsville," by Pennock Huey, 12mo.



(For the Army and Navy Journal.)

## MY FIRST GRAY HAIR.

UNWELCOME harbinger I have you come so soon?  
It must be late; I thought 'twas only noon.  
For, in the barber's chair, I see to-day  
Convincing proof my hair is turning gray.  
"O peevish mortal," Time said, solemnly,  
"Men of all ages are but babes to me.  
What's youth or age, or matter, mind or motion?  
Subjectiveness? Objectiveness? A scientific notion."  
Ah, Time, you are the spirit that stops the way;  
Your deep enigmas are our own decay.  
The need, decaying, springs to life once more;  
The chemistry of Life old forms restore;  
In children we will live in Time's despite;  
Thus Life's cloud turns its lining to the light.  
It subs rejoices to see a fussy pow.  
They, too, may wear its garland on their brow!  
"Eheu! fugaces anni," let them go!  
We, too, have kissed beneath the mistletoe;  
Have drunk our beakers, sang our song,  
And helped to kick the giddy world along.  
Now I read the inevitable text—  
You've had your inning; make way for the next.  
Are! ye grayheads, to your band I come;  
"Let it recorded be," and sound the drum,  
And hail this silver token of the ages!  
We'll all be graylings to the After Age.

FORT BRIDGER, Jan. 5, 1884.

CENTURION.

## SOME SANITARY SUGGESTIONS.

We are in receipt of the following circular letter, on which we remark elsewhere:

FORT SILL, I. T., Dec. 31, 1883

Sir: I have been making recommendations for some years past for the improvement of the condition of the enlisted men of the Army while quartered in permanent barracks, but I am sorry to say, with little success. In the hope, however, that what I shall recommend in that respect in my annual sanitary report for the present year may receive more favorable consideration if supported by the opinions of experienced line officers, I have to ask your opinion upon the following subjects:

- 1st. Is it desirable to improve the bedding of enlisted men by the addition of hair pillows, pillow slips, and sheets, in conformity to the custom of European armies?
- 2d. Is the present allowance of blankets sufficient for the soldier's comfort in cold weather? If not, would the substitution of the quilted "comfort" be desirable?
- 3d. Are the lockers or boxes now supplied large enough for the proper accommodation of the soldiers' clothing, helmet, etc.?
- 4th. Are the water closet or sink arrangements such as to promote the health and comfort of the men, more especially as to warmth in extremely cold temperatures and in stormy weather?
- 5th. Are there proper bathing and lavatory facilities for the men?
- 6th. Is there sufficient floor space between the bunks for the men to dress comfortably?
- 7th. Is the wear and tear of clothing arising from fatigue duties and mechanical employments, when detailed without extra compensation, a source of dissatisfaction and general complaint?
- 8th. In your opinion would improvements looking to the comfort of the men in the several directions suggested have any effect in making them better satisfied with their military life, and have any effect in preventing desertions?

I am, very respectfully, etc.,  
M. K. TAYLOR, Major and Surgeon, U. S. A.

## A SUGGESTION FOR GENERAL ROSECRANS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

H. B. 55, introduced by General Rosecrans, provides that whenever any commissioned officer on the active list of the Army below the rank of major shall have served in one grade, either in the Regular or Volunteer service, for twenty years, and if a lieutenant, as first and second, for that period, he shall be entitled to and shall receive the pay and allowances of the next higher grade.

Everyone must concede this measure to be one of simplest justice; possibly too meagre in its benefits and rather tardy in its operation, it is nevertheless to be hailed as a move in the right direction. It does not, however, appear to me to be as complete as it manifestly should be, and as it properly and very justly could be made. A measure which strikes so deeply and expands so widely through the military system as the question of promotion, should be uniform in its operations and equitable in its application. As this bill now stands it is partial in its benefits, it discriminates against service already performed, and in favor of service yet to be performed, and without consideration whatever as to the value of the service already rendered, and with equal indifference as to the nature or importance of the service expected. Why not unify the ethics of the service in this measure as was done by the courts of justice in the Tyler case, by striking out the clause, "on the active list," so the bill shall read, "whenever any officer of the Army," etc., etc.? Certainly it cannot be regarded as wise legislation to discriminate against service rendered in time of war, and in favor of that accumulated in time of peace, much of which must be hidden in the future. Congress will not knowingly legislate to induce the young officers of the Army to shun hazardous duty that may lead to their retirement on the grade of captain or lieutenant before the maximum of 20 years is accomplished.

There are captains and lieutenants now on the retired list who have performed twenty years of as hard service and have endured as much suffering in consequence as in all probability will fall to the lot of the young gentlemen now entering service. If the retired list was unlimited and took in all the disabled, like the pension list, instead of only the most severely disabled, and the maximum of four hundred were confined to the captains and lieutenants alone, there might be economical consideration urged against extending its benefits to them; but the additional amount is so small and the benefits to the service so vastly great, looked at from every point of view, it is difficult to see how the bill can possibly become a law without this change. Certainly the captains and lieutenants of the retired list will not hesitate to look after this matter.

## PRIVATE PENSION BILLS.

In addition to those mentioned already, bills have been introduced in Congress authorizing pensions to the following: The widow of Assistant Surgeon Lewis H. Ailing, U. S. A., and to the widow of Captain C. Z. Gardner, killed in the Seminole Indian war.

To J. A. Porter, late 1st Lieutenant Indiana volunteers.  
To the widow of Brigadier General J. W. Ripley, Chief of Ordnance, U. S. A., and to the daughter of the late General John McNeill, U. S. A.

To John B. Childs, late Acting Master, U. S. N.  
To the widow of Rear Admiral B. H. Wyman, U. S. N., and to the mother of the late Esmond E. H. Hazletine, U. S. N.  
To the widow of Lieutenant G. W. Grummond, 18th U. S. Infantry.

To the widow of D. B. Munsey, late Captain of the After Guard, U. S. Hartford.

To the widow of Commodore Jeffers, U. S. N.  
Also bills to increase the pensions of G. J. Stannard, late Brevet Major General of Volunteers. Of the widow of Rear Admiral O. K. Strubling, U. S. N. Of the widow of Major General F. P. Blair, and to pay her arrears. Of the widow of Acting Master E. S. Turner, late U. S. N. Of the widow of Paymaster A. S. Mallach, U. S. N. Of the widow of Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. Reynolds, U. S. A. G. Of the widow of Captain R. B. Cunningham, U. S. N.

## THE ARMY.

G. O. 2, H. Q. A., Jan. 18, 1884.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the following regulation is published, and will be numbered 1760½:

1700½. Quartermaster's property may be transferred by the officers of that Dept. to the officers or agents of the Signal Service, on their requisition, approved by the Chief Signal Officer, for the use of signal officers or stations at or near military posts. The cost of the stores so transferred will be reimbursed from the appropriations for the Signal Service, upon the receipt by the Q. M. Gen. of a report of their cost. The receipt of the officer or agent receiving the stores will be taken by the officer making the transfer, for file with his returns, and such receipt must show that request has been made for reimbursement of the cost of the stores so transferred.

By command of Lieut. Gen. Sheridan:  
R. C. DRUM, Adjt.-Gen.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Jan. 17, 1884.

In accordance with a request of the Postmaster General, the Secretary of War directs that the penalty clause be printed upon the upper right-hand corner of envelopes hereafter ordered for the use of this Dept. or its bureau, and that the penalty label shall, so far as practicable, be placed upon the upper right-hand corner of packages intended for the mails.

In this connection the Secretary of War also directs a strict compliance with the requirements of the *provisos* contained in section 5 of the act of March 3, 1877, as follows: "That every such letter or package to entitle it to pass free shall bear over the words 'Official business' an endorsement showing also the name of the Dept. and bureau or office, as the case may be, whence transmitted." (19 Stats., pp. 33-6.)

By order of the Secretary of War:  
JOHN TWEEDALE, Chief Clerk.

G. O. 1, DEPT. OF ARIZONA, Jan. 14, 1884.

Makes public the recent instructions of the War Dept., in regard to Post Commanders exercising control of men of the Signal Service.

G. O. 1, CORPS OF ENGINEERS, Jan. 21, 1884.

Directs that new blank form 3, Account Current, approved by the Second Comptroller, U. S. T., under section 273, R. S., be used in future by officers and agents rendering accounts.

## STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

## GENERAL OFFICERS.

Leave of absence for four months, to take effect March 12, 1884, with permission to go beyond sea, is granted to Brig. Gen. Oliver O. Howard (S. O., Jan. 23, H. Q. A.)

## BUREAU OF MILITARY JUSTICE.

There not being sufficient quarters at the Presidio, the Q. M. D. will hire the necessary quarters for Major William Winthrop, Judge Advocate, in San Francisco (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, Div. P.)

## QUARTERMASTERS AND SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Capt. Charles W. Williams, A. Q. M., is detailed a member of the Army retiring board, at Whipple Barracks, Prescott, A. T. (S. O., Jan. 22, H. Q. A.)

The journey performed by Major A. S. Kimball, Q. M., to Spokane, W. T., and return, is confirmed (S. O. 184, Dec. 31, D. Columbia.)

Leave of absence for one month, with permission to apply for an extension of one month, is granted Capt. James H. Lord, A. Q. M. (S. O. 8, Jan. 18, D. Platte.)

## PAY DEPARTMENT.

Major John B. Keefer will report in person to the C. O., Newport Barracks, Ky., for temporary Garrison Court-martial duty (S. O. 14, Jan. 23, D. East.)

## MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Leave of absence for twenty days is granted Surg. William E. Waters, Madison Barracks, N. Y. (S. O. 11, Jan. 17, D. East.)

Major W. C. Spencer is detailed as a member of the B. of S., appointed by S. O. 209 (S. O. 6, Jan. 11, D. Dak.)

The telegraphic instructions, directing A. A. Surg. W. O. Borden to proceed to Fort Bridger, Wyo., and report for duty, are confirmed (S. O. 6, Jan. 14, D. Platte.)

Leave of absence for fourteen days is granted to Major W. C. Spencer, Surg., Fort Snelling, Minn. (S. O. 7, Jan. 14, D. Dak.)

Hospital Steward Charles Keenan is assigned to duty at Fort Halleck, Nev. (S. O. 6, Jan. 14, Dept. Cal.)

The Subsistence Department will commute the rations of Hospital Steward Earl D. Eddy from January 3 to January 8, inclusive, while en route to Alcatraz Island, Cal. (S. O. 6, Jan. 14, Dept. Cal.)

## ENGINEERS AND ORDNANCE DEPARTMENTS.

S. O. 5 is so amended as to direct Capt. Carl F. Falfrey to report in person, on the expiration of his present leave of absence, to Lieut. Col. David Houston, Milwaukee, Wis., for duty (S. O., Jan. 19, H. Q. A.)

The leave of absence granted Capt. Henry S. Taber is extended one month and seventeen days (S. O., Jan. 16, H. Q. A.)

Ordnance Sergt. G. Loesch, recently tried by a General Court-martial, at Fort Elliott, Tex., for violation of the 62d Article of War, was acquitted (G. C. M. O. 92, Dec. 20, Dept. Mo.)

## SIGNAL CORPS.

Private William King, Signal Corps, recently tried at Fort Myer, for neglect of duty, as Acting Sergt. of the Guard, in permitting Sergt. Geo. W. Wall, Co. K, 3d Infantry, a prisoner, to escape, received a mild sentence, which upon the "unanimous recommendation of the members of the court," was mitigated to a forfeiture of \$5 per month of his monthly pay for 5 months.

## THE LINE.

## STATIONS OF TROOPS.

The table of stations of the several companies of Cavalry, Artillery, and Infantry, with that of the field officers of the several regiments, will be found in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL of January 19, page 506; also a list of officers on General Recruiting Service with their stations, page 507.

## 1ST CAVALRY, Colonel Cuvier Grover.

Col. Cuvier Grover is appointed special inspector at Fort Walla Walla, W. T., on three horses, for which 1st Lieut. W. H. Miller, R. Q. M., is accountable (S. O. 184, Dec. 31, D. Columbia.)

Leave of absence for one month, with permission to apply for an extension of two months, is granted 2d Lieut. James B. Aleshire, Fort Walla Walla, W. T. (S. O. 184, Dec. 31, D. Columbia.)

1st Lieut. Thomas Garvey is detailed as a member of a Board of Officers in place of 2d Lieut. James B. Aleshire, relieved (S. O. 184, Dec. 31, D. Columbia.)

## 3RD CAVALRY, Colonel Albert G. Brackett.

Leave of absence for one month is granted 1st Lieut. J. O. Mackay, Fort Leavenworth, Kas. (S. O. 11, Jan. 14, Dept. M.) The leave of absence granted Capt. Albert D. King is extended two months (S. O., Jan. 21, H. Q. A.)

## 4TH CAVALRY, Colonel William B. Royall.

The extension of leave of absence granted Lieut.-Col. George A. Forsyth is further extended one month (S. O., Jan. 17, H. Q. A.)

The extension of leave of absence granted 1st Lieut. James Parker is still further extended seven days (S. O., Jan. 17, H. Q. A.)

Major E. B. Beaumont, having reported from leave of absence, will proceed to Fort Wingate, thence to Fort Bayard, N. M., and report for duty. Upon his arrival at Fort Bayard, Major J. K. Mizner will proceed to Fort Craig, N. M., and report for duty (S. O. 4, Jan. 14, D. N. M.)

## 5TH CAVALRY, Colonel Wesley Merritt.

The leave of absence of fifteen days granted Major J. J. Upham, Fort Leavenworth, Kas., is extended one day (S. O. 11, Jan. 14, Dept. M.)

## 9TH CAVALRY, Colonel Edward Hatch.

The extension of leave of absence on Surg. certificate of disability granted Capt. Frank T. Bennett is further extended two months on Surg. certificate of disability (S. O., Jan. 23, H. Q. A.)

## 10TH CAVALRY, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.

A G. C. M. will convene at San Antonio, Tex., Feb. 4, for the trial of Capt. A. S. B. Keyes (S. O. 5, Jan. 15, D. Tex.)

Thirty colored recruits will be forwarded to the 10th Cav. (S. O., Jan. 17, H. Q. A.)

## 1ST ARTILLERY, Colonel George P. Andrews.

On the arrival of Major John I. Rodgers at Astoria, Ore., he will report in person to the Department Commander for instructions, and then will proceed to, and assume command of, Fort Canby, W. T. (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, D. Columbia.)

## 1st INFANTRY, Colonel William H. Shafter.

1st Lieut. F. H. Edmunds is relieved from further duty in connection with the Quartermaster's Depot at Fort Leavenworth, and will report to the C. O. of that post (S. O. 10, Jan. 12, Dept. M.)

In a Regimental General Order, dated Jan. 15, Lieut.-Col. Bartlett, commanding, announces the death of Capt. Thos. M. Tolman, at Fort Leavenworth, Dec. 14, 1883, and, after recounting his Army service, says: "The regiment, in the death of Capt. Tolman, has lost one of its brightest members, and one who peculiarly endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact. He was a generous, upright, whole-souled man, an officer devoted to his profession, and a most kind and affectionate husband and father. His death will be deeply mourned by all who knew him."

## 2ND INFANTRY, Colonel Frank Wheaton.

Major Leslie Smith is appointed special inspector at Fort Lapwai, I. T., on subsistence stores for which 1st Lieut. R. T. Earle is accountable (S. O. 1, Jan. 3, D. Columbia.)

The leave of absence granted Capt. Henry C. Cook is extended one month (S. O., Jan. 23, H. Q. A.)

## 3RD INFANTRY, Colonel John R. Brooke.

1st Lieut. Philip Beade is detailed on G. B. Service at Fort Shaw, M. T., during the absence of 1st Lieut. Joseph Hale, Regt. Adjt. (S. O. 6, Jan. 11, D. Dak.)

Leave of absence for four months, to take effect when his services can be spared by his post commander, is granted 2d Lieut. Frank P. Avery (S. O., Jan. 17, H. Q. A.)

The leave of absence granted 1st Lieut. William Krause is extended two months (S. O., Jan. 17, H. Q. A.)

## 4TH INFANTRY, Colonel William P. Carlin.

During the absence of Capt. Lord, A. Q. M., on leave, 1st Lieut. John J. O'Brien will perform the duties of Depot Quartermaster at Cheyenne, Wyo. (S. O. 8, Jan. 18, D. Platte.)

The extension of leave of absence on account of sickness granted Capt. James H. Spencer is still further extended three months on account of sickness (S. O., Jan. 19, H. Q. A.)

Capt. James H. Spencer will report by letter to Col. Carlin, president of the Army Retiring Board at Little Rock, Ark., and hold himself in readiness to appear before the Board for examination (S. O., Jan. 21, H. Q. A.)

## 5TH INFANTRY, Colonel John D. Wilkins.

Capt. Frank D. Baldwin, Judge-Advocate of Dept. of Columbia, will proceed to Salem, Ore., to inspect the State Penitentiary (S. O. 1, Jan. 3, D. Columbia.)

## 9TH INFANTRY, Colonel John S. Mason.

The body of Private G. A. Oborn, Co. A, 9th Inf., who disappeared from Fort D. A. Russell in December last, was found, Jan. 16, embedded in a snowbank near Crow Creek.

## 11TH INFANTRY, Colonel Richard I. Dodge.

2d Lieut. William H. Wheeler is relieved from duty on G. B. S. at Fort Buford, D. T. (S. O. 5, Jan. 10, D. Dak.)

## 12TH INFANTRY, Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.

Leave of absence from Feb. 1, 1884, until further orders, on account of sickness, is granted 1st Lieut. George W. Kingsbury (S. O., Jan. 23, H. Q. A.)

## 13TH INFANTRY, Colonel Luther P. Bradley.

The extension of leave of absence granted 2d Lieut. William N. Hughes is further extended seven days (S. O., Jan. 17, H. Q. A.)

## 14TH INFANTRY, Colonel Lewis C. Hunt.

The extension of leave of absence on account of sickness



(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

COLUMBUS BARRACKS, OHIO.

The weekly promenade concerts, given by the orchestral band, are very enjoyable, and judging from the large attendance, are highly appreciated by the enlisted branch. The band deserve special mention for their excellent music, under their able leader, J. W. Fitzgerald. A few of the permanent men have organized

### MILITARY PRISONERS

### RETIREMENT.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS



a dramatic and musical society, and gave an entertainment on the evening of January 14th, which was a complete success and was attended by a large number of the citizens here. Corporal Foulks, Musician Hopper and Private Nicolls rendered their parts to perfection. The other members of the society helped materially with songs, dances, and etc., to enhance the evening's entertainment, and all went away well pleased with the maiden effort of the boys in blue. Major Geo. E. Glenn, Paymaster, U. S. Army, dispensed his favors to this command, Jan. 12, and although there are about four hundred men at the Depot, there have been but three confined since pay-day.

Mrs. S. K. Johnson, who has been visiting her brother, Capt. Mason Carter, 5th Infantry, returned to her home at Augusta, Ga., yesterday.

## LATE ARMY ORDERS.

Lieut. Henry Romeyn, 5th Inf., is retired from duty in the Department of Texas, and will join his company (S. O. H. Q. A., Jan. 24).

The following transfers in the 1st Art. are ordered: Lts. H. L. Harris and David Price, from Light Battery K to Battery C, and Lieuts. J. V. White and C. J. Bailey from Battery C to Light Battery K (S. O. H. Q. A., Jan. 24).

Capt. W. H. Clapp, 16th Inf., will rejoin his station in the Department of Texas (S. O. H. Q. A., Jan. 24).

The leave of Lieut. H. L. Harris, 1st Art., is extended three months (S. O. H. Q. A., Jan. 24).

A furlough for six months is granted Hospital Steward E. D. Rogers (S. O. H. Q. A., Jan. 24).

The order directing Surgeon Chas. J. Alexander to report to the commanding general, Department of the Missouri, is revoked, and upon the expiration of his leave he will proceed to St. Louis for duty as attending surgeon, and to examine recruits (S. O. H. Q. A., Jan. 25).

Lieut. Col. J. C. Tidball is transferred from the 1st to the 3d Art., and Lieut. Col. A. Piper from the 3d to the 1st Art. Lieut. Col. Piper will join his regiment in the Department of California (S. O. H. Q. A., Jan. 25).

The leave of Lieut. H. S. Foster, 20th Inf., is extended one month (S. O. H. Q. A., Jan. 25).

The leave of Assistant Surgeon F. W. Elbrey is extended six months on account of disability (S. O. H. Q. A., Jan. 25).

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

## THEATRICALS IN THE ARMY.

Tuesday evening, Jan. 8, Mrs. Burnett's pretty play of "Emeralds" was presented at the post theatre to a very large and appreciative audience, by the ladies and officers of the garrison of Fort Assiniboine, M. T., who have organized themselves into a dramatic club, which glories in the name of the "Assiniboine Amateurs." The following happy cast of characters was made by the managers with excellent judgment: Old Man Rogers, a North Carolina farmer, Captain Spaulding, Lydia Ann Rogers, his wife, Mrs. Burton; Emeralds, his daughter, Mrs. Hoppin; Dary Hardy, a young North Carolina farmer, Lieut. Warwick; Estabrook, a Man of Leisure, Dr. Adams; Jack Desmond, an Artist, Lieutenant Bates; Nora Desmond and Kate Desmond, his sisters, Miss Sue Gill and Miss Davidson; Margus De Montessin, a French Adventurer, Lieutenant Duval; George Drew, an American Speculator, Lieutenant Griffith; Lieutenant C. B. Hoppin, stage manager; Mr. T. A. Wurn, musical director.

Mrs. Hoppin made a very demure and charming Emeralds, and her acting was superb. Miss Gill and Miss Davidson as Nora and Kate Desmond were enchanting, and acquitted themselves admirably and deserve great praise, and Mrs. Burton was equally happy as Mrs. Rogers.

Captain Spaulding as Mr. Rogers, that dear good old man, rendered his part in a most excellent manner, while Lieut. Warwick as Dary Hardy, made love in the most approved North Carolina way, and triumphantly carried off Emeralds.

Lieut. Duval made a capital Frenchman, and was particularly fine in his interview with Mr. Rogers, and Lieutenant Bates as Jack Desmond handled his part in a masterly manner, and seemed as much at home in a studio as he does in the Adjutant's office. Lieut. Griffith as Drew the speculator, fairly made one see stocks rising and falling, and the market swaying to and fro under the influence of his wonderful mind.

Every one did remarkably well, and to make distinctions would be invidious. As the curtain fell upon the final act the applause was deafening, and it went home thoroughly pleased with the night's performance. Other plays will soon be produced, and it is to be hoped they will prove as great a success as Emeralds.

Let me say before I close that too much praise cannot be awarded Dr. Burton and Lieut. Sargeant for the masterly manner in which they discharged their duties as ushers, and also that Lieutenants Huntington and Wood deserve great credit for their excellent management of the setting of the stage.

Mrs. DELAFRAINE.

"The Indian Club," of Fort Yates, Dakota, gave an excellent dramatic entertainment in the post theatre on the evening of January 11, commencing with the farce, "Our Uncle's Will." Lieutenant Bullock was the Charles Cashmore, Lieut. Chubb, Mr. Baker, and Mrs. Stocum, wife of Lieut. H. J. Stocum, 7th Cav., the "Young Woman of Determination," Florence Marigold. The characters were well sustained, the lady in particular doing full justice to her somewhat difficult part. "Betsey Baker," that favorite farce with amateurs, followed; Mouser, Lieut. Bullock; Crummy, Lieutenant Kerr; Mrs. Mouser, Mrs. Rogers; Betsey Baker, Mrs. O'Brien; Office Boy, Guy Godfrey. It was performed with spirit and intelligence, and loudly applauded. The orchestra band of the 17th U. S. Infantry, rounded off the evening with some excellent music.

Lieut. Macklin, 11th U. S. Infantry, recruiting officer at Fort Leavenworth, recently received the following communication:

U. S. recruit officer—I wish to enlist and hear that the U. S. sends any bod a pass that wants to come and enlist and I thought that I would enlist if they do that way if you will send me a pass that is it they are a wanting any body. Address Davis City, DePage county, Iowa.

RUBEN MITCHELL.

## ADMIRAL AMMEN AND HIS CRITIC.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

My attention has been called to your issue of Dec. 15, in which appears a criticism on "The Atlantic Coast," stated as coming from a naval officer. For this reason, I trust, a brief discussion of it will not be considered amiss by your readers.

There are five points of criticism that will be considered. My critic says: "Omission was made of two most important events of the Civil War—[1.] the raising of the blockade of the capital of the nation. . . . In the spring and summer of 1861 the enemy had planted long lines of batteries on the right bank of the Potomac, which effectually blocked all access to Washington by water. Not a pound of provisions, not a cartridge, not a munition of war of any kind could be got to Washington by sea or river. The capital was a beleaguered city. The *Pensacola*, then sitting out at the Washington Navy-yard, was considered sure of capture or destruction."

On the night in which this ship was to pass the formidable batteries on the Potomac the President and all of his Cabinet accompanied her down the river until she was lost to view, under the storm of fire of those batteries. She passed the batteries in safety, through the intrepidity of her captain, Henry Morris. The whole Navy rang with the fame of this neat exploit, which was attended with the greatest dangers. The blockade of Washington was raised;

the Potomac River was once more opened to navigation its entire length."

The reader may well wonder why the incident of the escape of the *Pensacola* without harm should destroy the very effective and extraordinary blockade described above.

Early in June, and the months following, batteries were brought to the Virginia shore of the Potomac River, and received from time to time the attention of the Potomac flotilla, particularly the one on Mathias Point. No attempt, however, is found in the Washington newspapers, of that period, to obstruct the navigation of the Potomac until Oct. 17, 1861. From the *National Intelligencer* the following extracts are taken: "We learn that the newly discovered batteries of the Confederates are four in number, located over a space of three-fourths of a mile, between Aquia Creek and Shipping Point, so as to command some four and one-half miles of channel for heavy ships. Each of these batteries mounts four or five guns; eleven of them believed to be 9-inch Dahlgrens. Oct. 19—The Government steamer *Cour de Leon* towed up the sloop *Granite*; they were not fired on. Tugs *Murray* and *Pusey* towed up the *John Forayth* and another large schooner laden with Government bay. About twenty shots were fired at them after night without injury. Besides the above, the following vessels are known to have passed the batteries without injury: Steamer *City of Richmond*, with powder and other Government stores; steamer *Columbia* from Baltimore; also a large wood schooner and one or two others. The tug *Leslie* ran into the steamer *Jenkins*, bound up. She had on board a troop of cavalry with their horses. Oct. 21—Steam packets *Chamberlain* and *Seymour* arrived from Philadelphia with merchandise. They were fired at as they passed the rebel batteries, but suffered no injury. The schooner *Fairfax*, bound up with 1,100 bales of hay, was captured off Shipping Point. This, and another vessel in tow of the tug *Resolute*, were fired upon when passing the rebel batteries, when the towline of the *Fairfax* parted; she drifted towards the batteries and was taken possession of by the enemy. This is the first serious disaster that has happened to any vessel in passing these batteries. The whole number of vessels which has passed them since Tuesday last and safely arrived in this city, we learn, fifty or sixty—so that, notwithstanding reports to the contrary, communication by way of the river is not yet cut off, though it must be confessed that the existing impediment to navigation is rather annoying. Oct. 22—Forty vessels that had anchored under Indian Head passed the Confederate batteries; 24 shots were fired at them, but none were struck. Nov. 4—Steamers *Poehatan* and *Mount Vernon* passed up without injury, and a number of small vessels passed down Friday and were fired upon without injury. Nov. 22—Steamers *Sleeping Stones* and *Wyandauk* passed down laden with powder, shot, and the following day the *Ital*, laden with powder, shot, and shells; also two schooners. Nov. 27—Not much of a blockade; two large schooners arrived laden with coal; a considerable quantity of wood arrived in other vessels; also ten schooners laden with fine oysters. Dec. 8—*Reliance* came up; rebel batteries only occasionally molest passing vessels; schooners are constantly passing up and down the river unharmed; many of them are not fired at. A schooner a day or so ago had thirty shots fired at her, one slightly cutting the rigging. Dec. 6—The *Wyandauk* came up; a vessel passed up in broad daylight and was not fired on by the *Cour de Leon* conveyed up eleven schooners. Dec. 16—Steamers *Jacob Bell* and *Satellite* passed down; the latter was fired at. Schooners and other vessels pass daily without harm, and for the most part are not fired upon at all. Jan. 13, 1862—The new steam frigate *Pensacola* has arrived safely at Hampton Roads; passing down the Potomac, the batteries fired twenty odd shots at her."

Should my critic ask over his signature for the names of the vessels that passed I will obtain and publish hundreds of them, provided the Editor is willing to give his columns to such nonsense. On Jan. 12, 1862, the *Pensacola*, then at anchor at the fish (white) house, where she had been for some days, got under way at 1 A. M. She had the tugs *Pusey*, *Leslie*, and *Reliance* lashed to her port side, and was accompanied by the gunboat *Yankee*. At 4 she was off Indian Head; at 4.45 Cockpit Point was three points abaft the beam, distant 1,100 yards. Batteries on that and Shipping Point opened fire, and threw fourteen shells and twelve round shot at her without effect. Her log book says: "All of them were well aimed, but too high." Half an hour later she had passed beyond the range of projectiles, and at 9.30 was off Mathias Point, with men at quarters; she passed unmolested and had not fired a gun en route. The log book of the *Pensacola* makes no mention that "the President and all of his Cabinet accompanied her down the river until she was lost to view." This would have been as ridiculous as the blockade presented by my critic has been shown to be chimerical.

## THE RECAPTURE OF PLYMOUTH.

The second omission on my part "was the defeat of a plan which would have enabled the enemy to have prolonged the war for years to come. . . . It was believed by both Union and Confederate officers that General Lee would fall back from the line of the James to that of the Roanoke, the recapture of Plymouth by the Union Navy became of vital importance. That town lay at the mouth of the river, and its possession by the Union forces would threaten the right flank of the new lines."

As the Union forces then held Beaufort and Newbern and the line of railroad between them, the possession of Plymouth, an isolated town without interior railroads, could not be regarded by the Union forces as of vital importance. "An advance on the supposititious line presented would have been much more practicable from Newbern than from Plymouth. Its capture by Macomb and those under his command was, however, not the less creditable to them; it was well conceived and executed; quite worthy of him and his able supporters. My critic says: "In this way the gallant Macomb led his flotilla through crooked, narrow and unsounded back channels to the rear of Plymouth, and the amazed garrison there, unable to fire a gun, surrendered the place without striking a blow." This presentation is dramatic, but does not accord with Macomb's report. He had first attempted a direct attack, but finding the enemy had obstructed the channel at the wreck of the *Southfield*, one mile below, he abandoned that approach after receiving information through the *Valley City* that he had previously sent into Middle River, and through a small and tortuous passage into the River Roanoke above Plymouth. My critic represents his approach strewn with torpedoes; that warps and hawvers were necessary to traverse those waters, and that Macomb was not assured of the destruction of the *Albemarle*, all of which are erroneous. For the last named fact, see Macomb's Report, October 23, p. 149. The fallacy of his other assertions will appear as this narrative proceeds. Macomb's Report, Nov. 1, 1864, p. 699, says: "On our way through Middle River we fired by compass courses, over the woods at Plymouth, at distances varying from 2,600 to 1,700 yards, and have since learned our fire was very effective. It was late in the afternoon when we arrived in the Roanoke, on account of the extreme narrowness, and short curves of the Middle River, but, to prevent the enemy from blockading the river, or putting

torpedoes in the channel, I dropped to within short range of the 100-pounder Parrotts and shelled him for an hour or so."

The following morning Macomb attacked the batteries with the six vessels under his command, and lost on board the *Shamrock*, which he commanded, two killed and six wounded; and on board the *Hall*, four killed and three wounded from the fire of the batteries of the enemy. A magazine on shore was blown up, the batteries were deserted, and prisoners and guns taken possession of by Macomb. Afterwards, in opening a passage to the north of the river, two torpedoes were found guarding the openings at the obstructions flanking the wreck of the *Southfield*. The reader has learned thus far, that however interesting and dramatic my critic has been, he has essentially failed in exactness. Useful as a critic he may be, but certainly he has lacked in correct statement. It may be that he did not write with the expectation of being criticized, and thus an unfair advantage may have been taken of him.

Before accepting the proposal to write "The Atlantic Coast" the publisher had determined that whatever was written of events within the Capes of Virginia should appear in the volume written by Professor Soley, U. S. Navy. In the preface will be found this statement, and "This volume which may be regarded as the second, treats of naval operations from Cape Hatteras to Cape Florida, along the coasts, and within the sounds, rivers, and harbors of this watershed." This quotation would seem to warrant the belief that my critic did not think it worth while to read the book of which he treats. Had he done so he would have seen that a description of the escape of the *Pensacola*, very properly and creditably effected, did not come within the purview of "The Atlantic Coast."

In relation to the taking of Plymouth my critic speaks with more reason. It escaped my researches, and I have now to express my obligations. An examination of the report of Macomb (p. 149), and his reports as dated and published the year following, will explain how any one recently recovered from severe illness might have failed to find what my critic has so happily brought to notice. He intimates that the two omissions above referred to are only named, although many exist. His further perquisitions will be gratefully acknowledged as now.

The third point of my critic is: "Scolding, in which he indulges so freely, of Congressmen who may never see or hear of his book, is, at the least, space and labor lost, if it is not in questionable taste." In order that this may be at once brought to the knowledge of the reader in all its naked deformity and questionable taste, all that the book contains on that subject is quoted, p. 9: "It is so pleasant to deceive ourselves, that now, when our flag waves over a wide and broad land, with its 52,000,000 of inhabitants, some of our legislators insist that 'no nation would dare attack us.' Others speak of 'appropriating liberally for the building up of a Navy,' and then gravely propose the magnificent sum of \$1,800,000 for the cruising Navy, and half that sum, more or less, to complete an improved monitor. To the naval mind, or to the person who looks at forces relatively, there is something painfully ludicrous in such propositions."

The fourth point of my critic is, that "the writer has singularly sought to undervalue and despise an enemy," whilst Captain Chapman, who commanded battery Buchanan at Ft. Fisher says: "Had you not asked me to criticize I should have read the book without one word of criticism, and laid it away as a pleasing memento of happier times. . . . There is nothing to object to in your opening chapter, and your conclusions are marked with good sense. . . . The Atlantic Coast is rather on the Northern side, but we cannot object to that as you looked at it through those glasses." Nowhere in his very candid criticism, did my old friend and shipmate intimate that I had "singularly sought to undervalue and despise an enemy."

In reply to an inquiry, I have received the following letter from a Virginia gentleman, as widely and agreeably known among persons in active public life as any one in this country:

I am in receipt of your note of the 7th, and answer unhesitatingly that there is nothing in your interesting work that justifies any such criticism as has been made in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL. It struck me as not only being able and exhaustive of the subject treated, but fair and decorous in its tone to those who differed with your views.

Very respectfully and truly your friend,

BEVERLY TUCKER.

My critic asserts that no chronological order of events was followed in "The Atlantic Coast." In the preface he will find: "As an actuality two centres of operations existed—the one at Port Royal, the depot of supplies and the usual headquarters of the South Atlantic blockading squadron—the other within the Sounds and on the coast of North Carolina, over which the North Atlantic blockading squadron held watch. In order to avoid confusion the events of each section are treated separately." This having been done, another melancholy instance is shown that my critic did not consider it necessary to read "The Atlantic Coast."

He alludes to "stale jokes and bad puns" which may perhaps be found to occupy as much space as that given to "scolding Congressmen." The writer will concede without cavil what his critic says: "That the Atlantic Coast is yet to be written," and yet, is the reader disposed to believe that even his dramatic pen would better what "The Atlantic Coast" presents? His very vivid picture of Washington as a beleaguered city vanishes in looking over the daily newspapers, and with the exception of the schooner *Fairfax* whose towline parted, the writer has not been able to find after diligent search, that a single vessel was seriously injured or a man killed on board of the hundreds of vessels that passed these "formidable batteries" almost without interruption, first during the night and afterwards in open daylight, in contemptuous disregard of them. Should my critic still insist on the existence of the blockade so poetically described by him, the names of the vessels sunk, injured or destroyed and those captured, and in a general way the number of men killed and wounded on board of them, in the attempt to reach or to come from the beleaguered capital of the nation are demanded, as a necessary proof of his assertion. Nothing but an extraordinary destruction of vessels and of men would prove a bar to the navigation of the Potomac River. A close examination of the consecutive daily *National Intelligencer* from June 1, 1861, to the end of the following January, has failed to disclose any further loss or interruption than quoted above, nor is there any mention of the President and all of his cabinet having been down the Potomac watching the *Pensacola* with intense interest enter "that storm of fire," nothing in fact of that event except the small paragraph quoted above.

Should my critic have anything to substantiate the accuracy of his statement, it would doubtless interest the readers of the JOURNAL. Nothing has been found of the existence of a blockade and no mention that it had been raised within three weeks after the escape of the *Pensacola*, yet all of this, doubtless, is very vivid in the personal recollections of my critic, and quite undimmed by the mists of twenty-two years.

DAN F. AMMEN

WASHINGTON, January 18th, 1884;



## THE NAVY.

## NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

## WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM

**North Atlantic Station—Rear-Admiral Geo. H. Cooper.**

**ALLIANCE**, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Allen V. Reed. Reported at Santiago de Cuba, Jan. 17, and from that port was to go to St. Thomas.

**GALENA**, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Oliver A. Batcheller. At the New York yard fitting out. The *Galena* will sail for the West Indies early in February, and she will take a mail for the U. S. S. *Savilla*. Letters for this mail should be addressed, care of *Galena*.

**SWATARA**, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander Philip H. Cooper. At Port au Prince, Hayti, at last accounts. To remain in Haytian waters.

**TENNESSEE**, 1st rate, 22 guns (f. s. n. a. s.), Capt. Joseph N. Miller. At Port au Prince, Jan. 5, having arrived Jan. 2 from St. Thomas. Expected to sail about Jan. 12 for Aspinwall.

**VANDALIA**, 2d rate, 8 guns, Capt. Rush R. Wallace. Arrived at Port of Spain, Trinidad, Jan. 2, 1884, after a pleasant passage of two days from Port Castries, St. Lucia. All well on board. Was to remain at the latter place ten days, and then sail for Lagayra.

**South Atlantic Station—Commodore Thomas S. Phelps.**

**BROOKLYN**, 2d rate, 14 guns, Capt. Aaron W. Weaver. (f. s. a. s.) At Tamatave, Madagascar, Dec. 11, 1883. Sailed for Zanzibar Dec. 16, and arrived there Dec. 23.

**NIPISIC**, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Henry B. Seely. At Buenos Ayres, Oct. 31.

**European Station—Rear-Admiral Chas. H. Baldwin.**

**LANCASTER**, 2d rate, 10 guns (f. s. e. s.), Capt. Edward E. Potter. At Marseilles at last accounts, and was to sail for Villefranche on Nov. 24, 1883, to remain several weeks. Rear Adm. Baldwin expects to reach Palermo, Sicily, with the vessels under his command, the last week in February.

**QUINCEBAUGH**, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Nicoli Ludlow. At Leghorn, Italy, at last accounts.

**KRABBERG**, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Wm. R. Bridgman. At Marseilles, France, at last accounts. Was to proceed to Villefranche about Dec. 1.

**Pacific Station—Rear-Admiral Aaron K. Hughes.**

**ADAMS**, 3d rate, 6 guns, Commander Joseph B. Coghlan. At Sitka, Alaska.

**HARTFORD**, 2d rate, 16 guns (f. s. p. s.), Capt. Chas. C. Carpenter. At Valparaiso. At last accounts was to leave (Jan. 9) for Honolulu.

**IROQUOIS**, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. James H. Sands. At Callao, Peru, Dec. 15, and sailed Dec. 16 for Talcahuano.

**LAOKAWANNA**, 2d rate, 9 guns, Capt. Augustus P. Cooke. Her arrival is reported by cable at Valparaiso Dec. 14 from Talcahuano.

**ONWARD**, 4th rate, 3 guns, Lieut. Commander Francis W. Dickins. Store ship. Callao, Peru. Will be relieved by the *Monongahela*.

**PENSACOLA**, 2d rate, 22 guns, Capt. Henry Erben. En route for the U. S. At Batavia, Java, at last accounts. Letters should be sent to U. S. S. *Pensacola* (care U. S. Consul): Cape Town, South Africa, via Europe.

**WACHUSSETT**, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Alfred T. Mahan. At Callao, Peru, Dec. 21, 1883.

**SHENANDOAH**, 2d rate, 9 guns, Captain Chas. S. Norton. Arrived at Porto Grande, Jan. 20, as reported to the Navy Department by cable message from Capt. Norton. Letters may be sent to Montevideo until Feb. 1, and after that care of U. S. Consul, Panama.

**Asiatic Station—Acting Rear-Admiral John L. Davis.**

**ALBERT**, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Chas. J. Barclay. En route for Japan. Arrived at Honolulu, Dec. 20, 1883. Expected to sail Jan. 3, 1884.

**ENTERPRISE**, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Albert S. Barker. At Roze Island, Corea, Dec. 3.

**ESSEX**, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Alex. H. McCormick. Was at Nagasaki, Japan, until Nov. 27, 1883. Completed repairs to her engines and sailed for Canton, China, via Amoy, Swatow and Hong Kong, to relieve the *Junata*. Condition good.

**JUNIATA**, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Purnell F. Harrington. At Canton Dec. 6. Was to be relieved by the *Essex* early in December, and then proceed to Swatow and Amoy—thence to Nagasaki, fill up with stores, and return to China.

**MOSCOW**, 3d rate, 6 guns, Commander Francis J. Higginson. Reported at Shanghai, China, Nov. 30.

**PALOS**, 4th rate, 6 howitzers, Lieut. Commander Geo. D. B. Giddens. At Nagasaki, Japan, until Dec. 6, 1883, when she left for Tientsin, via Chefoo, with orders to reach Tientsin Dec. 15, 1883.

**RICHMOND**, 2d rate, 14 guns (f. s. a. s.) Capt. Jos. B. Kennett. Arrived at Nagasaki, Japan, Dec. 13, 1883.

**TARNTON**, 2d rate, 10 guns, Capt. Robert L. Phythian. Letters by the *Trenton* received from Gibraltar, give an account of her passage from New York, as before reported by cable. She arrived at Gibraltar Dec. 23, 1883. On Dec. 16, a suspicious case of sickness was reported by the surgeon, with every indication of smallpox. Capt. Phythian, therefore, concluded to run for Horta, so that if the case should prove to be smallpox the man could be landed. It turned out to be measles only. On Dec. 6, in Lat. 37 11 30 Long. 50 22 W., passed a wreck, which appeared to be a three-masted vessel of about 1800 tons on her beam ends—the rail awash. No person on board. Could see no name or mark which could lead to her identification. At the time the *Trenton* was under sail and there was a heavy sea, and it was impracticable to destroy the wreck. The *Trenton* experienced during her passage two severe gales and a great deal of stormy weather. She behaved admirably and developed fine qualities as a sea-boat—easy and dry when hoisted. She rolls deeply at times, but without risk. Health of officers and crew good. The Korean Ambassador and suite suffered some discomfort during the bad weather, but since have become accustomed to the motion of the ship, and have been cheerful. Through the politeness, intelligence and assiduous attention of Ensign Fouli, their time has been pleasantly spent, and they have been made to feel quite at home. On Dec. 29 fired a National salute with the English ensign at the fore, and a vice-admiral's salute of 15 guns. Both returned gun for gun. Expected to take in coal and sail for Marseilles Jan. 3.

Arrived at Marseilles, France, Jan. 7, 1884.

**Apprentice Training Squadron—Commodore Stephen B. Luce.**

**JAMESTOWN**, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Commander Allan D. Brown. At New York.

**MINNESOTA**, 1st rate, 24 guns, Capt. Jas. H. Gillis. Gunner ship. In winter quarters. Mail address, Station E. New York. Packages and telegrams should be addressed to the *Minnesota*, foot of West Twenty-seventh Street.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**, 1st rate, 16 guns, sails, flagship of training squadron, Captain Edmund O. Matthews. Coaster's Island Harbor, Newport, R. I.

**PORTSMOUTH**, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Comdr. Wm. O. Wise. At Norfolk, Va., for repairs.

**SARATOGA**, 3d rate, 12 guns, Comdr. Henry C. Taylor. Training ship. At New York.

## On Special Service.

**ALARM**, 4th rate, Torpedo ram, 1 gun, Lieut. Robert M. G. Brown, commanding. At Washington, D. C.

**DESPATCH**, 4th rate, Commander S. Dana Greene. At Washington, D. C.

**MICHIGAN**, 4th rate, 8 guns, Comdr. John J. Read. At Erie, Penn.

**PINTA**, 4th rate, screw, 2 guns, Lieut. Comdr. Albert G. Caldwell. En route for San Francisco, Cal. At Maranham, Brazil, Jan. 4, 1884.

**POWHEATAN**, 2d rate, 14 guns, Captain Andrew W. Johnson. At Boston undergoing repairs.

**RANGER**, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Chas. E. Clark. Surveying in the Gulf of Mexico. At Acapulco, Mexico, at last accounts. From there was to go to the Gulf of Tehuantepec.

**ST. MARY'S**, sails, 8 guns, Commander Edwin M. Shepard. N. Y. School ship. At New York, in her winter quarters, at the Dock foot of 23d Street, East River.

**TALLAPOOSA**, Despatch vessel, 4th rate, 2 guns, Lieut. John F. Merry, commanding temporarily. At Norfolk, Va., Jan. 4.

**YANTIC**, 3d rate, 4 guns, Commander Frank Wides. At the Navy-yard, New York. Will make a cruise through the West Indies, and will visit Paramaribo, Dutch and French Guyana, the Orinoco River, and return to Port au Prince—thence visit Cuban ports, and return to Hampton Roads, via Key West and Charleston.

**SPEEDWELL**, 4th rate, Lieut. David G. McRitchie. Lieut. D. G. McRitchie, commanding the U. S. tug *Speedwell*, telegraphed to the Secretary of the Navy, from Vineyard Haven, Jan. 19, as follows: "Anchored here. Imminent snow storm. Yesterday went to assistance of wrecked steamer *City of Columbus*. Saved one passenger. Picked up three bodies. Leave for Portsmouth, N. H., as soon as weather permits." Arrived at Portsmouth, Jan. 22. On leaving there will stop at New York Navy-yard for freight.

## VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

The German screw corvette *Oiga*, ten guns and 280 men, commanded by Captain Baron von Seckendorff, arrived in Bermuda, Jan. 13th. The *Oiga* has been cruising in South American and West Indian waters, and has on board Prince Heinrich, of Prussia, second son of the Crown Prince of Germany and Prussia. On the voyage from Havana, which occupied nine days, the ship experienced stormy weather, and was hoisted to on the 7th and 8th inst. in a severe south-west gale. She was to proceed this week to the Western Islands, thence to Germany.

The *Vellejo Times* states that Phillip Harrigan, who for the last fifteen or twenty years has been employed as messenger of the Captain of the Yard at Mare Island recently committed suicide by drinking the contents of a blue-stone battery, a mixture of sulphate of zinc and sulphate of copper, used in connection with the electric clock in the office. He was driven to this act by certain slanderous reports as to his doings at the Navy-yard.

The "blue-jackets" of the U. S. S. *Portsmouth*, at the Norfolk Navy-yard, are giving an interesting series of weekly variety entertainments which are well patronized. They are given in "Half-deck Hall," corner of "Gun-deck St. and Cabin-door Avenue."

The *London World* says: "Nice being now, to use a volatile correspondent's expression, 'crum-jam' full, it is but natural that there should be a temporary cessation of arrivals, though they will begin again in full force when the time for the races draws near. The receptions, the teas, the soirées keep up well; and I hear that private theatricals are to be the next innovation, and that many young gentlemen and ladies are already going through the harrowing struggles of becoming 'word-perfect,' or, as they call it, 'learning their parts.' The receptions on board the U. S. S. *Lancaster* have proved a decided success; and I am informed that one of the best proofs of being in good society at Nice is to be bidden to them."

As soon as the *Vermont* is fitted up as a receiving ship, the *Colorado* will, with other vessels, be offered for sale. The *Twonderoga* is also condemned as unfit for further use in the Navy. The vessels that are to be offered for sale are the *Niagara*, *Benicia*, *Florida*, *Pavnee*, *Supply*, *Cyane*; also the *Onward*, at Callao, when the *Monongahela* takes her place.

The *Monongahela* is to be the storeship at Callao, Peru, in place of the *Onward*.

The tug *Triana* returned to New York on January 20. She cruised all over the ground where the wreck was previously seen, but failed to discover any trace of it. It is inferred that the torpedoes which had been exploded under the wreck had had such an effect that the gales subsequently carried it away.

ORDERS were given this week by Secretary Chandler for one of the Herreshoff steam launches for the new despatch boat *Dolphin*. Its cost will be \$2,000.

LIEUT. Harbor telegraphed the Navy Department that he would leave Moscow January 20.

THE U. S. *Speedwell* picked up, Jan. 22, 1884, in Long Island Sound, a Hell Gate pilot who was adrift in a small boat, and landed him at Portsmouth, N. H.

THE Naval Board of Inspection and Survey have placed the value of the receiving ship *Colorado* at \$34,700. This appraisal includes none of her machinery, which will be removed before she is sold.

At a recent meeting of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, a memorial to Congress urging a large increase of the Navy was unanimously adopted, and ordered to be sent to Washington. In moving the adoption of the memorial, Capt. Merry made a ringing speech, pointing out the ridiculous position the United States occupied for lack of proper naval armament.

THE remains of De Long and his comrades will be escorted from the wharf, in New York, to the receiving vault at the Naval Hospital, on Flushing avenue, Brooklyn, by the 23d Regiment of that city, on their arrival about February 22, battalions of marines and blue jackets forming the immediate escort. The use of the Brooklyn Tabernacle has been tendered by the Rev. T. De Witt Talmage for religious

ceremonies, should it be determined to hold any, over the remains.

CHICAGO has a lively new paper, called *The Current*, in which we find the following: "Our Naval Advisory Board should take warning from the recent revelations about the German Navy, and reject all merely experimental plans for war vessels. The German Government has been wasting millions on vessels devised by marine architects of crazy and extravagant tendencies, and has on hand a large number of gunboats and torpedo boats which are practically useless. In building a navy our Government will have the advantage of the varied and costly experience of the European Governments, and can profit greatly by their failures as well as by their successes. One of the first duties of our Government is to secure the services of a few good naval constructors. Many officers of experience say that we have not one reliable constructor."

THE *London Engineer* says: "There is reason to believe that the tonnage of steamships built in 1883 is the largest on record; but there can be no doubt that it has been in excess of the real requirements of trade, and that there will be a considerable falling off this year. But new enterprises are being undertaken which will prevent our shipyards from being altogether idle. If marine engineering the tendency is all in favor of higher and higher pressures."

THERE was launched, January 12, from the works of the American Ship Building Company, of which Mr. Gorrings is the head, an iron sailing vessel, the largest one ever built in this country, of the following dimensions: Length extreme, 285 feet; breadth extreme, 42 feet; depth of hold, 24 feet seven inches; not registered tonnage, 1,900; dead weight capacity on 23 feet draught, 3,560 tons; on 22 feet draught, 3,260 tons. She is full ship-rigged, iron lower masts and bowsprit, iron lower yards and lower topsail yards, double topsail yards, double top-gallant yards, and has three skysails. Length of mainyard, 95 feet; area of canvas, 42,000 square feet; steam cargo and anchor gear. This vessel was christened *Clarence S. Bement*, and is to be commanded by Capt. B. B. Townsend. The company has acquired eight and one half acres adjoining Allegheny avenue, upon which it proposes to erect a machine shop and foundry and additional building slips, and ultimately a dry dock.

MICHAEL Healey, John Reilly, and John Davis, sailors attached to the training ship *Jamestown*, at the Navy Yard, Brooklyn, N. Y., fell overboard on Jan. 22, while going on the vessel, and were rescued by John C. Ward, a workman in the yard. The latter jumped upon a spar near the men, who were fighting large cakes of ice, and while one of them grasped his legs, he held the heads of the other two above water until help arrived.

## NAVY GAZETTE.

## ORDERED.

JAN. 21.—Paymaster Henry G. Colby, to duty with U. S. store ship *Monongahela*. March 1.

Sailmaker Gilbert D. Macy, to the Training-ship *Minnesota*.

JAN. 25.—Lieutenant Commanders Edward L. Amory, Jacob E. Noel, Socrates Hubbard, Rowell D. Hitchcock, Willard H. Brownson, Jno. S. Newell, Joseph E. Craig, Francis M. Barber, Charles M. Thomas, Thomas Perry, Marcus B. Buford, and T. A. Lyons, to New York, to attend the funeral services of Lieutenant Commander De Long, on the arrival of the remains.

## DETACHED.

JAN. 19.—Passed Assistant Surgeon Robert Whiting, from the Naval Hospital, Norfolk, and ordered to the Receiving-ship *Colorado*.

Chief Engineer Charles H. Loring was detached from duty at the Navy-yard, New York, Jan. 19, and assumed to duties as Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering on Jan. 22.

JAN. 21.—Lieutenant James M. Grimes, from the *Powhatan* on Jan. 25, and placed on sick leave.

Sailmaker Charles E. Tallman, from the Training-ship *Saratoga*, and placed on waiting orders.

Sailmaker John Martin, from the Training-ship *Minnesota*, and ordered to the Training ship *Saratoga*.

JAN. 23.—Ensign Philip V. Lunsdale, from the *Galena*, and ordered to the *Ossipee*.

JAN. 24.—Commander Charles V. Gridley, from the Navy-yard, Boston, February 4, and ordered to command the Training-ship *Jamestown*, Feb. 5.

Commander A. D. Brown, from the command of the *Jamestown*, in the reporting of his relief, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant James A. Chesley, from duty, and ordered to his home, having been placed on the retired list.

Gunner Wm. A. Ferrier having been found unfit for duty at present by the Retiring Board, has been detached from the *Minnesota* and granted permission to enter the Naval Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y., for medical treatment.

JAN. 25.—Chief Engineer E. D. Robie, from the Navy-yard, Boston, and ordered to the Navy-yard at New York.

Assistant Surgeon H. B. Fitts, from the *Jamestown*. Naval Constructor R. W. Steele, from duty at Erie, Pa. and ordered to duty at New York.

## SUSPENDED FROM PROMOTION.

Lieutenant Downs L. Wilson having failed to pass a satisfactory examination, has been suspended from promotion for one year, at the expiration of which time he will be re-examined.

## LEAVE.

Ensign James H. Soars, attached to the Training-ship *Portsmouth*, has been granted two weeks leave from Jan. 25th.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Frank Anderson granted six months leave from Jan. 22.

## CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE.

Pay Inspector Edward May to be Pay Director; Paymaster A. J. Pritchard, to be Pay Inspector.

## PLACED ON THE RETIRED LIST.

JAN. 22.—Lieutenant Commander Thomas M. Gardner and Lieutenant John A. Chesley

## CASUALTIES.

Resigned.—Cadet Midshipmen Oliver Frick, A. L. Porter, John L. Wetherell, John E. Ethel and Walter Canaday.

Deaths in the Navy of the United States, reported to the Surgeon General, for the week ending Jan. 23, 1884:

George Frederick Nutt, seaman, Jan. 13, Naval Hospital, New York.

John Whalen, 2d class fireman, Jan. 16, Naval Hospital, Chelsea.

John Rodgers, marine, Jan. 14, Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia.



Frederick W. Nugent, seaman, Dec. 13, 1883, U. S. S. Richmond, at sea.  
Francis J. Sherman, landsman, Dec. 6, 1883, U. S. S. Enterprise, Rose Island, Corea.

G. O. 815, NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, January 14, 1884.  
G. O. 241, dated Feb. 12, 1879, is hereby rescinded. Pay officers of ships and squadrons will render monthly, to each Bureau of the Navy Department, abstracts of public bills, with vouchers, in lieu of the quarterly abstracts heretofore rendered in accordance with Form 22, page 195, Regulations relating to the Pay Department, U. S. Navy.  
WILLIAM E. CHANDLER, Secretary of the Navy.

#### NAVAL ACADEMY.

The semi-annual examination of the Naval Academy cadets and the first examination for the present term commenced on Monday, and would last the week. With its conclusion ends the first term of the academic calendar. The annual examination preceding graduation occurs in June, from the 2d to the 7th of the month, the latter date ending the academic year of 1883-84. The following cadets have resigned: John E. Ethell, of Indiana; Alpheus L. Porter and John L. Wethered, of Maryland. The latter two are residents of Baltimore, and all are members of the fourth class and entered the Naval Academy in September, 1883.

The young daughters of Naval Academy officers recently held a fair at the Academy for the benefit of the poor of Annapolis, and realized about \$50.

The Naval Academy last Saturday evening hop had its usual large attendance.

#### REVENUE MARINE.

The following bills have been introduced in Congress:  
H. R. 2580, Ezra B. Taylor. Appoint Thomas H. Lawrence, late a second lieutenant, a third lieutenant in the Revenue Marine Service, and be assigned to the first vacancy; and the provisions of law regulating appointments in the Revenue Marine Service are hereby suspended for the purpose of this act and only so far as they affect said Thomas H. Lawrence.  
H. R. 2591, George. That the sum of \$180,000 be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, for the construction of a steam vessel of the Revenue Marine and steam launch, for special service in the water and tributaries of Alaska.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

#### NAVY YARD, BOSTON.

Captain E. P. Lull, in charge of Equipment, has been confined to his home for several days with chills and fever. Paymaster C. F. Guild of the *Wabash* is ill at his home, on Mt. Vernon street, Charlestown.

Lieut. G. F. Elliott, U. S. M. C. has returned to duty at the barracks.  
There were only 115 men at roll call on Saturday, the day being a stormy one, but there are nearly double that number on the rolls.

Lieut. Uriah Seabrook, U. S. N., reported to Commandore Badger on Saturday as navigator of the *Powhatan*. Ensign Augustus C. Almy, U. S. N., reported on Tuesday on board the same ship.

Lieutenant-Commander J. K. Winn, U. S. N., recently in command of the naval station at Key West, Fla., returned to his home in Chelsea on Thursday, of last week, having been relieved by Lieutenant-Commander Geo. F. F. Wilde, U. S. N.

Sergeant Robert Ehrman, U. S. M. C., has been released from arrest, restored to duty, and will be honorably discharged next week on the expiration of his term of enlistment.  
Rev. B. L. Greene, of the Trinity M. E. Church, Charlestown, preached on board the *Powhatan* last Sunday evening, having exchanged with Chaplain Tribou.

The Court ordered to inquire as to the probable amount of damages done the *Druid* has completed its investigation, and forwarded its report to Washington.

Rumor has had it for sometime that Chief Engineer Robie, of this yard, is to be ordered to duty at the New York Yard; that Chief Engineer Barker also on duty here, is to be ordered to Washington, and Chief Engineer Macomb is to be ordered to duty here.

Commander Whiting is to have command of the *Saratoga*, and not Commander Gridley as reported last week.

A General Court Martial with Captain E. P. Lull, U. S. N., as president, and Lieutenant N. J. K. Patch, U. S. N., as recorder, met at the yard on Wednesday noon for the trial of Private Wm. H. Townsend, U. S. M. C., who deserted from the marine corps last April.

In the United States Circuit Court, sitting in Boston, Judge Colt presiding, the case of John Shea vs. Captain R. Chandler, Lieutenant-Commander O. J. Train and Lieutenant T. Porter, U. S. N.; and Chas. P. Mulcahy vs. same, were called on Monday. The plaintiffs claim to have been injured by a bullet fired from a rifle in the hands of one of the above named officers in November, 1881. The officers were firing at a target at the regular navy yard range, and the plaintiffs were sitting on a wharf outside the yard. The damages were laid at \$45,000. The case was tried a year ago, but the jury failed to agree, standing five to seven. The trial occupied three days. E. L. Barney and E. J. Hadley, for plaintiffs. C. S. Train and J. O. Keefe for the defendants. A judgment for \$3,700 was obtained against Messrs. Train and Porter, but Capt. Chandler was held not to be liable.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

#### MARINE BALLS.

Ten Marines of the Washington Navy Yard gave their first annual grand ball, at Abner's Hall, on the evening of Jan. 21. The ball-room, one of the largest and best arranged in the city, was appropriately and handsomely decorated with flags and flowers. The platform was adorned with every description of acoutrement used in the profession, and the articles were tastefully arranged. The music was furnished by the Marine Band. The grand march preceding the dances was one of the principal features of the evening. The Marines were in full uniform, and their experience in marching, in which the ladies joined, enabled them to perform many evolutions which were quite gratifying to those who had the good fortune to witness them. Many prominent officers of the Navy and Marine Corps were present with their families, who indicated a lively interest in the affair, and congratulated the originators of it on their success. The supper was all that could be wished for, and altogether, the first ball for many years of the Marines at the capital intimated an enjoyment worthy of encouragement and annual continuation in the future. Great credit is given to Capt. Higbee, commanding the guard at the Washington yard, the officers of his command, and those of the Corps at Headquarters, for the success of the undertaking.

The second grand military ball of the season, given by the Marines stationed at Pensacola Navy Yard, occurred on the evening of Jan. 16, and had for object the rather anomalous one of raising funds for the erection of a monument to their comrades who died of yellow fever last summer. The Ordinance Hall was beautifully decorated for the occasion. Among the guests (principally from Pensacola, Warrington, and Woolsey—so called for the commodores of these names), there were present for a short time Lieut. Taylor, of the Marine Corps, and Mrs. Taylor; Paymaster Peterson, of the Navy; and Major and Mrs. Burbank, Capt. and Mrs. Eaton, and Lieut. and Mrs. Lemly, of the Army.

The annual complimentary ball of the Marine Corps at the New York Navy Yard took place at Grand Central Hall, Brooklyn, on the evening of January 18. There was a large attendance and a good time generally, dancing being kept up until long after midnight.

#### ALL HONOR TO THE REVENUE MARINE.

THE loss of the steamship *City of Columbus* and over one hundred lives, off the rocks at Gay Head, Mass., on the morning of January 18, has been the sensation of the week. Great praise has been given to the officers and crew of the Revenue Cutter *Dexter* (Captain Gabrielson) for their efforts to save life on the occasion. Captain Gabrielson in his report to the Treasury Department on the subject recommends especially for the consideration of the Department First Lieut. W. D. Roath, Second Lieut. J. U. Rhodes, and Third Lieut. C. D. Kennedy for bravery and exemplary conduct, and First Assistant Engineer Rockwell and Second Assistant Engineer O. W. Beckwith for the great care and attention bestowed upon the survivors.

Lieutenant Rhodes is especially well spoken of for feats of daring in saving lives, of which this account is given:

The Revenue Cutter *Dexter* was laboring through the heavy sea at noon on the way from Block Island to New Bedford. It was Lieut. Rhodes' watch, and he sighted something unusual off Gay Head. He soon made out that it was a wreck, and he called the attention of others to it. At first he thought that loose sails were flying from the rigging, and that it was a collier aground. Suddenly he exclaimed to a brother officer, "There are men in that rigging," and he dashed below for a stronger glass. Others on board would not believe it, but after a second observation Lieut. Rhodes declared that it was men and not sails in the rigging. He ordered all steam crowded, and the cutter plunged through the fearful seas to the rescue. On arriving as near as it was safe to venture, Lieut. Rhodes picked a crew and started for the wreck in the cutter. They got only one or two men on the first trip, but returned again. Meantime Lieut. Kennedy begged Capt. Gabrielson to allow him to go out with a picked crew in the gig. The Captain said that the light boat could not live in such a sea; but the Lieutenant begged to be allowed to make the attempt, and the Captain consented. Lieut. Kennedy selected two men whom he thought he could trust, but they failed him and dared not venture. He called for volunteers, and got a crew. His boat was so light that they could not go near the wreck, but they took a position to the lee of Lieut. Rhodes' boat, and fished out of the water those who floated past the larger boat. In this way several were saved. Lieut. Rhodes' crowning deed of heroism, in swimming for two men left in the rigging, has been described. It was an act of unmatched bravery, and his success was almost miraculous. On board the *Dexter* everything was done for the comfort of the survivors. All the officers' staterooms were placed at their disposal, and vigorous treatment restored the use of benumbed limbs.

One of the survivors, Mr. Cooke, is reported in the N. Y. Tribune as enthusiastic in his praises of the heroic conduct of the officers and crew of the U. S. revenue cutter *Dexter*, and of the attaches of the Life-Saving Station of the Boston Humane Society. "Lieut. Rhodes, of the revenue cutter, did not ask any of the seamen in the rescuing boat to go, but had a line lashed about himself, and in an instant he plunged overboard and swam for the rigging to rescue a couple of men who seemed frozen, but still alive. He almost reached the wreck when he was badly bruised by some of the floating debris. His companions immediately drew him back through the surf. He insisted upon a second attempt, and no persuasion could prevent him. This time he was successful in reaching the wreck, and the poor men were dragged into his boat in a half-frozen condition. He tried every means to arouse them, but all in vain. When he had reached the side of the cutter both men were dead. In many of his daring acts of rescue Lieut. Rhodes was accompanied and assisted by Lieut. Roath, and all the officers and all the crew of the *Dexter* are gratefully spoken of by the fortunate survivors for their daring in rescuing the shipwrecked passengers."

The U. S. S. *Speedwell*, Lieut. D. G. McRitchie, while en route to Portsmouth from New York, picked up a boat with one of the passengers of the *Columbus*, Capt. S. Vance, of Truro, who was in the last stages of exhaustion. Of some trunks picked up soon after one proved to be his, so he was sent home rejoicing, carrying his baggage and life preserver with him. He is reported as saying: "I was in the boat from about 4.30 a. m. to 2 p. m., when I was saved by the U. S. steamer *Speedwell*. I was thoroughly prostrated and could not have survived 30 minutes longer. Further than this I can say nothing as to the wreck except that it was a scene of unpeakable horror."

The Boston Post is receiving many subscriptions to its fund to be presented to Lieut. Rhodes, of the *Dexter*, in recognition of his gallant services at the recent Gay Head disaster.

Since this was in type we have received, but too late for publication, a copy of Capt. Gabrielson's official report, which substantially agrees with this account.

On Tuesday the House passed the following resolution unanimously:

Resolved, etc., That the thanks of Congress are given to Capt. Eric Gabrielson, commanding the United States steamer *Dexter*, and the officers and men under his command, and to the men who manned the lifeboats from the shore, for their brave and humane conduct in saving the survivors of the wrecked steamer *City of Columbus*, in Vineyard Sound, off Gay Head, in Massachusetts, on the 18th of January, 1884; especially to Lieut. John U. Rhodes, who, at the imminent peril of his life, twice swam to the steamer through the heavy seas and floating wreckage and rescued the two men who were clinging to the rigging.

#### RENAISSANCE OF THE NAVY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

The very excellent report of the "Commission on Navy-yards" is a move in the right direction.

It adopts the English system of Dock-yards in place of Navy-yards, consolidates the departments of construction and engineering, disposes of hospital grounds, cuts down employees, and checks political interference at Navy stations.

Say what we will, Mr. Editor, about American progress and ideas, we must take a back seat in naval affairs, and follow English organization. Congress don't see it, but the commissioners do; and now all that we need is an "Admiralty" for the Navy, that the Secretary can attend to his own business—his desk, and political affairs.

The abolition of the un-English grade of Commodore, and of the useless "Junior grade" from Lieut. and Ensign, will bring about the desired end, and infuse new life and vigor into the Navy.

The sale of hospitals and hospital grounds, recommended by the Surgeon General and Commissioners, will be a great saving. The marine and civil hospitals can accommodate all the sick, and the "Bureau of Medicine and Surgery" might be consolidated with "Construction and Repair," under a Controller General of the Staff. The Naval Asylum, which costs from sixty to ninety thousand a year, is another hospital for aged, decrepit, rheumatic, phthisical old men—the Asylum (like the London Chelsea Hospital) should be

abolished, and the inmates placed under medical charge, or "out-pensioned" like English seamen.

With iron ship-building, vigorous court-martialing, rapid promotion, a brand new uniform, and freedom from the "politician," we may hail the present as the renaissance of the Navy.

VANNO.

#### STATIONS OF COAST SURVEY VESSELS.

Colby M. Chester, Comdr. U. S. N., Hydrographic Inspector.  
Steamer A. D. Baché—Lieutenant Henry B. Mansfield, U. S. N., comdg.—Address, care Agent Tampa S. S. Co., Cedar Keys, Fla.  
Steamer Arago—Lieut. Gustavus C. Hannus, U. S. N., comdg.—Address Morehead City, N. C.  
Steamer Barataria—Ensign Alfred Jeffries, U. S. N., comdg.—Address, care Woodward and Light, New Orleans, La.  
Steamer C. S. Blake—Lieut. Comdr. Willard H. Brownson, U. S. N., comdg.—Address Baltimore, Md.  
The George S. Blake arrived at Baltimore, Jan. 16th and will receive new boilers and a general overhauling at Pettit's Novelty Works. When repairs are completed, which it is expected will take six months, she will sail for the Bahama Islands, between which and the Florida coast several lines will be run to properly locate depths.  
Schooner Drift—Lieut. John C. Fremont, Jr., U. S. N., comdg.—Address Navy Yard, New York.  
Schooner Eagle—Ensign T. D. Griffin, U. S. N., comdg.—Address Navy-yard, New York.  
Schooner Earnest—Ensign J. N. Jordan, U. S. N., comdg.—Address Port Townsend, W. T.  
Steamer Endeavor—Lieut. John T. Sullivan, U. S. N., comdg.—Address Navy Yard, New York.  
Steamer Gedney—Lieut. E. D. F. Heald, U. S. N., comdg.—Address Navy Yard, Norfolk.  
Arrived at the Norfolk Navy Yard January 18, from New York to have her boilers repaired before proceeding to Galveston, Texas, to work along the Gulf coast in that section.  
Steamer Hawley—Lieut. Comdr. H. E. Nichols, U. S. N., commanding—Address Vallejo, Mare Island Navy Yard, Cal.  
Steamer M. Arthur—Lieut. Edward D. Tausig, U. S. N., comdg.—Surveying Coast of California. Address P. O. Box 2272, San Francisco, Cal.  
Schooner Palmarus—Lieut. A. V. Wadhams, U. S. N., comdg.—Address Navy Yard, New York.  
Schooner Ready—Lieut. Cam. McR. Winslow, U. S. N., comdg.—Address Coast Survey Office, Washington, D. C.  
Schooner Scoresby—Ensign Rennie P. Schwerin, U. S. N.—Address Navy Yard, New York.  
Schooner Silliman—Lieut. John D. Keeler, U. S. N., comdg.—Address Navy Yard, New York.  
Sloop Steadfast—Ensign T. G. Doney, U. S. N., comdg.—Address Waukegan, Lake County, Florida.

#### FISH COMMISSION.

The Albatross, Lieut. Commander G. L. Tanner, commanding, left Norfolk, Va., Jan. 11, for St. Thomas and the Caribbean sea on a surveying cruise.  
The Fish Hawk, Lieut. W. M. Wood, commanding, Navy-yard, Washington.  
The Lookout, Mate, Jas. A. Smith, commanding, is at Washington, D. C.

#### REVENUE MARINE SERVICE.

Alert, 2d Lieut. C. H. McClellan, comdg. Savannah, N. J.  
Bouldin, Capt. John G. Baker, comdg. Savannah, Ga.  
Chase, Capt. L. G. Shepard, comdg. New Bedford, Mass.  
C. I. az, Capt. L. N. Stodder, comdg. Wilmington, N. C.  
Corwin, Capt. M. A. Healy, comdg. San Francisco, Cal.  
Crawford, (out of commission).  
Coxe, 1st Lieut. F. M. Munger, comdg. Philadelphia, Pa.  
Chandler, 1st Lieut. D. F. Tozier, comdg. New York.  
Dallas, Capt. Russell Glover, comdg. Portland, Me.  
Dexter, Capt. Eric Gabrielson, comdg. Newport, R. I.  
Diez, Capt. Frank Barr, comdg. New York.  
Discover, Engineer E. P. Webb, in charge, Savannah, Ga.  
Ewing, 1st Lieut. T. B. Mullett, comdg. Baltimore, Md.  
Fessenden, Capt. S. S. Warner, comdg. Detroit, Mich.  
Gallatin, Capt. J. C. Mitchell, comdg. Boston, Mass.  
Grant, Capt. Joseph Irish, comdg. New York.  
Guthrie, 1st Lieut. J. H. Rogers, comdg. Baltimore, Md.  
Hamilton, Capt. E. L. Deane, comdg. Philadelphia, Pa.  
Hamlin, 1st Lieut. George Williams, comdg. Boston, Mass.  
Hartley, 2d Lieut. David A. Hall, comdg. San Francisco, Cal.  
Johnson, Capt. A. D. Davis, comdg. Milwaukee, Wis.  
McCulloch, Capt. D. B. Hodgdon, comdg. Charleston, S. C.  
McLane, Capt. David Evans, comdg. Galveston, Tex.  
Manhattan, 1st Lieut. John Bennett, comdg. Fort Monroe, Va.  
Bibb, 1st Lieut. W. E. Kilgore, comdg. Oswego, N. Y.  
Rush, Capt. C. L. Hooper, comdg. San Francisco, Cal.  
Report, 2d Lieut. W. A. Failing, comdg. Chincoteague, Va.  
Seward, Capt. W. S. Simmons, comdg. New Berne, N. C.  
Seward, Capt. Thomas W. Lay, comdg. Shiloborough, Miss.  
Search, 2d Asst. Engr. H. C. Henahaw, in charge, Baltimore, Md.  
Saville, 2d Lieut. E. C. Chaytor, in charge, Elizabeth, N. J.  
Vanderbilt, 2d Lieut. George E. McConnell, in charge, Bay Shore, L. I.  
Woodbury, Capt. C. A. Abbey, comdg. Eastport, Me.  
Wilcott, 1st Lieut. Jas. B. Moore, comdg. Fort Townsend, W. T.  
Washington, 1st Lieut. M. L. Phillips, comdg. New York.  
Forward, 1st Lieut. John Brann, comdg. Mobile, Ala.  
Pearce, 1st Lieut. J. M. Simms, comdg. Galveston, Tex.

#### WESTERN CIVILIZATION DERIVED FROM CHINA.

In some very interesting extracts from the diary of the Marquis Tseng, which appear in the *Electric Magazine*, for February, copied from the *Fortnightly Review*, we find the following novel view of occidental civilization, presented by this able and accomplished Chinaman:

One evening, in conversation with Sung Sheng, he expressed his belief that the systems of government and civilization prevailing in the West bear a close resemblance to the institutions of China in the time of the Chow dynasty. Lao Tse, he said, after serving as a minister of that dynasty, had gone to the West and transplanted the laws and usages of China into western soil. The assertion does not, unfortunately, admit of positive proof, but the idea is one of some interest and novelty. I remarked, in reply, that Europe, having been once inhabited by wild tribes, had in all probability derived its literature and political systems from Asia, whence they had gradually spread westward, and this I considered the explanation of the resemblance between European habits and ways and those of China in olden times. I used to tell my French interpreter in jest that China's sacred Emperor descended in an unbroken line through history, and that even as regards Presidents we had Yao and Shun, the best that ever existed. This was of course merely a joke, but still it is plain that all western institutions have existed in the past in China. For example, in the West articles of household use are invariably carved and engraved with taste and neatness, the idea being derived from the inscriptions found upon goblets, cups, and like utensils of antique date in China. It may be said that steamers, steam-engines, and such ingenious contrivances were unknown in past ages. By such an assertion, however, the fact is ignored that mechanical ingenuity depends upon material resources, and varies according to a nation's prosperity or decay. When material resources fail, mechanical arts fall into neglect. In olden times China had no lack of mechanical appliances, but as her national prosperity gradually declined, her people fell into idleness and thriftless habits, and mechanical arts gradually died out. As, by a glance at what Europe now is, we may see what China once was, so by noting what China now is, we may learn what Europe will one day become. The time will arrive when Western workmen, now so active and superior, will grow lumpy, and Western ingenuity give way to homely simplicity. The fact is, the earth's productions are not sufficient to provide for the manifold wants of its countless people, and deterioration is one of nature's laws.



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D. E. PORTER, an Egyptian staff officer, writes an  
interesting letter to the Washington Evening Star con-  
cerning the Egyptian soldier. He says: "The Egyptian  
is but a soldier in name. He is a child in war, and will  
never be anything else. The writer was with them  
when everything was in their favor—position, arms,  
force—and their natural enemies (Christian Abyssinians)  
armed only with guns, spears, and clubs (the club pre-  
dominating); but notwithstanding all their advantages  
the Egyptian army were driven like sheep to the  
slaughter by these nude savages, without obeying the  
first instinct of nature—self-defence."

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#### GARRISON COMFORTS.

We publish in another column, under the head of  
"Some Sanitary Suggestions," a circular letter issued  
by Surgeon Morse K. Taylor, U. S. A., Post Surgeon at  
Fort Sill, Indian Territory, in which he solicits opinions  
as to some suggestions he offers for improving the con-  
dition of the enlisted men of the Army while quartered  
in permanent barracks. Surgeon Taylor first inquires  
if it is desirable to improve the bedding of enlisted  
men by the addition of hair pillows, pillow slips, and  
sheets. Pillow-slips, we understand, are now a regu-  
lar issue to troops, and one Department Commander at  
least, (General Hancock) in his recent annual report, re-  
commended strongly that sheets be added, as conducive  
to personal comfort and decency, and, doubtless, the re-  
commendation will receive consideration. The hair  
pillow would seem to be a desirable innovation, and  
even the hair mattresses might be introduced without  
fear of bankrupting the Government. They are used  
in the post hospitals and, therefore, it would only be  
necessary to increase the supply. The straw tick and  
the straw pillows are an inheritance from the time  
when the military idea was the Spartan one, to deprive  
the soldier, in time of peace, of everything akin to  
luxury, or even to comfort, so that he might be able,  
when called upon, to undergo the hardships of active  
warfare. A few domestic comforts supplied to our  
soldiers in their barrack-rooms will not spoil them for  
good service in the field. Experience has more than  
once demonstrated that.

Inquiry is next made as to whether the present allow-  
ance of blankets (3 in each enlistment) is sufficient for  
the soldier's comfort in cold weather, and whether a  
quilted "comfort" is desirable. This leads to a con-  
sideration of the question as to whether some change in  
the system of issuing blankets, etc., to soldiers in per-  
manent barracks could not be made. Say that a com-  
pany marches into barracks from some other station,  
why could not the Post Quartermaster issue from store  
to each man one woollen counterpane, two blankets,  
two sheets, one pillow slip, (sheets and pillow-slips to  
be changed weekly) and the necessary number of hair  
mattresses and pillows, the company commander  
to be accountable for them and to turn them in  
when his company vacates the post. Soldiers,  
at present, are not limited, in practice, to one  
or even two blankets, but the system seems to us  
somewhat rude now that most of our soldiers are  
quartered in permanent Forts and Barracks. Should  
the bill providing for post quartermaster-sergeants be

come a law, the system of issues of the articles in ques-  
tion as suggested would be rendered easier by having  
at each post, permanently, a non-commissioned staff  
officer to give attention to the details. The lockers in  
barrack rooms are limited to 24 inches length, 13 inches  
breadth and 10 inches in height. The size might be in-  
creased somewhat without detriment to the barrack  
room and certainly with increased benefit to the soldier.  
The locker has been a permanent fixture for eight years  
and has been a source of much convenience to the en-  
listed man.

Surgeon Taylor next comes to the important ques-  
tions as to whether the water-closet or sink arrange-  
ments are such as to promote the health and comfort of  
the men, and whether there are proper bathing and lava-  
tory facilities. At some the answer is yes, and  
at others, and we believe the great majority, no.  
But of late years more attention has been given to this  
matter and but few post commanders nowadays will  
rest satisfied until the bathing, washing and other sani-  
tary accommodations for the garrison are put in good or-  
der. The scantiness of the appropriations often impedes  
their efforts, but much progress has been made in this  
direction and we trust to see more. The original con-  
struction of some of our Forts has also been a drawback  
in this respect, affording as it does but little scope for the  
introduction of sanitary reform. The floor space between  
the bunks is sufficient in some barrack rooms if the men  
keep to their own sides, in others it is not. But this  
seems to depend much upon the number of troops. If  
there is ample barrack room accommodations, most com-  
manders will be glad to secure for their men all the  
space possible.

The last question of the series is the broad and prac-  
tical one as whether the improvement suggested would  
have the effect of making soldiers better satisfied with  
their military life and have any effect in preventing de-  
sertions. Assuming that it is quite possible with patience  
and considerable attention to mould the recruit into  
a good and faithful soldier, we unhesitatingly answer,  
yes. The barrack room is the only home he  
has for the time being, and if that is made uncomforta-  
ble and disagreeable for him at the outset, what is to  
be expected of his future career? We do not believe  
that he should be coddled, but we do cling to the idea  
that a due regard for the decencies of modern civiliza-  
tion in the surroundings of the barrack room, and bar-  
rack square will do much to inoculate him with true  
soldierly pride and ambition. We commend Sur-  
geon Taylor's circular to the careful consideration of  
those best able to form a judgment as to the value of  
his suggestions.

#### NAVY RATIONS.

In the report of the Secretary of the Navy the state-  
ment is made that the cost of provisions issued during  
the fiscal year was about \$473,000, while the commuted  
rations amounted to \$576,000. This seems a singular  
state of affairs, and Mr. Chandler says further, that  
"commutation for enlisted men, although of doubtful  
legal authority, and only effected through the fiction  
by which the man is supposed to draw his rations and  
then sell them to the paymaster, has become practically  
unlimited, and results in the deterioration and final con-  
demnation of many provisions." On the face of it it  
would seem that we have here an illustration of the  
saying of the late John P. Hale, that "the Navy De-  
partment is conducted without the slightest regard to  
law."

Inquiry has developed the fact that Mr. Chandler  
has mixed up *surrendering* and *commuting*, when he re-  
fers to "the fiction" of the purchase by the paymaster  
of a man's rations, and further that there seems to be  
full legal authority for commutation of rations either in  
whole or in part.

So far as we are able to learn, it has been for many  
years customary in the Navy for certain petty officers,  
such as the ship's cook, the jack-of-the-dust, the mas-  
ter-at-arms and his messmates, etc., to commute wholly  
their rations, subsisting themselves at their own ex-  
pense. The various messes of seamen and marines  
have also from time to time commuted a greater or  
less number of rations, generally at the discretion of  
the commanding officer, though occasionally circulars  
from the Bureau of Provisions have limited the number.  
Commutation then has been the rule, except for a brief  
time, when, by the act of March 3, 1851, "all commu-  
tation of rations was forbidden, except by officers and  
their servants." This law had evidently been suggest-  
ed by what was then thought to be "practically un-  
limited commutation." That it did not work  
well in practice, is fully evinced by the fact  
that in August of 1853, this provision was  
expressly repealed, thus practically giving au-  
thority for a return to the old custom—and mak-



ing it in fact more strongly binding than before. The phraseology of the Revised Statutes concerning rations stopped for the sick in hospitals does not appear to be in conflict with the idea that commutation is lawful, and we believe that a close inspection of the various laws on the subject will convince the Secretary that he has been led into an error. If it is right to commute one or two rations in a mess, it cannot be wrong to commute half a dozen, for the law or custom that permits the less, permits also the greater, number.

"The fiction" of purchasing rations from the men arose from a practice introduced by Paymaster General Cutler. By virtue of this the men were permitted not only to commute whole rations, but to surrender such parts of the rations which they were supposed to draw, as they desired. If, for instance, a mess did not care to draw the salt pork or preserved meat portion of the ration, while drawing the other parts of it, they were credited with its issue value. This was a great boon to the men, for it gave them an opportunity to have when in port, fresh meat instead of salt, a privilege which was largely availed of, and the withdrawal of which, we hear, is likely to cause a good deal of dissatisfaction, especially in connection with the recent reduction in the number of rations allowed to be commuted by each mess. Furthermore, we learn, that it has become of late years quite the universal custom for the berth deck messes to pay their cooks a ration (\$9 per month), or even a ration and a half, for their services, and this will, of course, be interfered with under the new order of things.

As the Naval Regulations provide that rations can be commuted for no less period than three months, it would seem that the paymasters of cruising vessels (for which alone is any considerable amount of provisions required) could easily make their requisitions and complete their purchases when necessary, upon a well known and accurate basis. If in a crew of two hundred and fifty men, for instance, there were one hundred rations commuted, the supplies could be laid in as if the crew were but one hundred and fifty, and hence the accumulation of a large quantity of perishable stores could be easily avoided. Again, if it were found that a certain percentage of the salt pork or beef was surrendered, the quantity laid in could be still further diminished; in short, if care and prudence were exercised in this matter there would not necessarily be an undue proportion of provisions condemned. We do not know the scope of the orders to the board now sitting in Washington on this subject, but it is to be hoped that it is sufficiently broad to permit of the discussion of this branch of the matter. We understand that in the case of receiving ships the late circular has been practically revoked, and it will, we are sure, prove a matter of congratulation to the enlisted men if the result of the deliberations of the board proves to be a like revocation in the case of the cruising ships.

The Board has adjourned temporarily, having made a preliminary report. They have also issued a circular with a view to obtaining the wishes and opinions of the officers and men of the Army. This can, we should think, have but one effect, viz.: to return to the late standard, with possibly some modification in the component parts of the ration. At all events, it is a good thing to give to those most chiefly concerned an opportunity to express their views; and it is a step in advance to thus permit the enlisted men to say something regarding what they are obliged to eat.

#### THE LAW OF RETIREMENT.

LIEUT. CHARLES P. MILLER, U. S. A., retired, through his counsel, has filed a claim in the Court of Claims for \$3,800, for longevity pay due under the Tyler decision. This is one of the cases which the accounting officers of the Treasury refused to pay, on the ground that the record of the claimant was incomplete, he having been out of the Service for a period, and subsequently reinstated with the action of the Senate. His case, it will be remembered, was referred by the Secretary of the Treasury to the Court of Claims for decision under the Bowman act. No date has been set for argument before the court. It will probably be some weeks before the case is brought up.

Mr. Miller was, in 1867, while a 1st Lieutenant, 7th U. S. Infantry, ordered before a Retiring Board, who found him incapacitated, and that this incapacity was not incident to the Service. On application the President ordered the case reopened and reheard on the ground that there had not been a "full and fair hearing" within the meaning of the statute. The Board again made its report, and the President again approved it, and on September 20, 1869, directed an order to be made annulling his former action, and placing Mr. Miller on the retired list. The Second Comptroller now raises a question as to the legality of the President's

action in ordering a rehearing of the case. The point is, that after acting on the first report and retiring the claimant wholly from the Service, the President had no power to make any further order in the premises, that he was *functus officio*. In support of this view he refers to the case of Mimmack v. The United States, reported in VII. Otto, 436. In that case the court held that Mimmack ceased to be in the Service by the acceptance of his resignation, and that revoking his acceptance did not restore him to the Service, as that could only be done by the constitutional method of re-appointment and confirmation.

Mr. Miller replies that as Mimmack's act was voluntary, and as it was his act and not that of the President in replacing him, the President, though nominally reviewing his own act, was in fact reviewing and nullifying Mimmack's act, over which the President had no control.

The action which resulted in Mr. Miller's retirement was, on the contrary, not voluntary on his part, but enforced. The action which he sought to have reviewed being judicial, the court before which he came had the power incident to every judicial body, to review its action on good ground being shown: in this case on the production of evidence, which if produced at first would have entitled Mr. Miller to the relief finally given, and on proof that there was good excuse for not having produced it in the first instance. The action sought to be reviewed in Mimmack's case was, in its very nature, final, and in no sense judicial. This, it is claimed, is the real and fundamental distinction between this case and that of Mimmack.

A resignation, it is further claimed, being a voluntary act of the party in interest, is, when legally completed, of necessity, final. An officer dropped from the rolls for desertion, is summarily removed for a specified cause; yet he has, by sec. 1230, R. S. 1873-74, a right to demand and have a trial within a certain time. The only one of the above methods at all analogous to removal by being retired wholly is the third, viz.: Sentence of Court-martial. This method, it is argued, is undoubtedly judicial. The President, in approving the sentence, passes on evidence judicially. He cannot, however, grant a new trial after once approving the sentence. Why? Because the Statute (R. S. 1873-74, sec. 1233) expressly provides that an officer once removed in this way shall never be restored, except by a reappointment confirmed by the Senate. The contention is that there is no analogous provision made in regard to retirements. Yet the above provision as to Court-martial was enacted after the statute governing retirements had been in force for years. And while Congress thought it necessary to enact an express prohibition in order to prevent a retrial in cases of Court-martial, it did not include retirements wholly from the Service in that prohibition, nor has it ever expressly limited the power of the President in regard to the same.

The case is of general interest as offering an opportunity for the interpretation of the law of retirement, and it is of especial interest to Mr. Miller as determining the question whether he is to receive \$2,800 more from the Treasury, or return to it some \$12,000 he has drawn as a retired officer. As he is a lawyer of ability and high standing at the New York bar, he is in a position to make a vigorous fight in behalf of his interpretation of the statutes.

We congratulate the Corps of Engineers upon the prospect of having in time, if they will only wait with becoming patience, one of our colored fellow-citizens as Chief of their Corps. The young cadet, Alexander, is thus far making so excellent a record for himself that there is a prospect that he may take a place among the honor men of his class. It is early to prophesy as to his future; but, if he wins his way to the front, he will be entitled to and will receive, we doubt not, the heartiest congratulations from officers of the Army. There ought not to be, and is not, the slightest disposition at the Academy to hamper him in the race for preferment, and the only embarrassment hitherto in dealing with colored cadets has been the disposition of ill-advised friends or philanthropists to subject them to a different law than that which prevails at the Academy in the case of those whose misfortune it is to be white.

In this connection, we would call attention to the interesting statement concerning the colored troops which appear in a letter from Colonel Henry, of the 9th Cavalry, published on another page. In commenting on this letter, the editor of the *Southern Workman* says: "Statements made to us personally by the officers at Fort Hale, Dakota, in 1881, concerning the colored garrison at that point were to the same effect. The negro service has, we believe, proved an agreeable one to every good officer who has entered it, no matter with

what dislike or prejudice. The black soldier has held his own in the English and French as well as in the American Armies. Negroes are not lacking in bravery; a regiment of them will be shot down in their tracks if their officers will stand."

He might have added that the black soldiers of the Egyptian Army are the best by far. He justly ascribes part of the success of the negro service "to the conditions of military life under good officers, which not only develops manly qualities, but supplies a discipline that is most wholesome to a people unused to self-control. The two hundred thousand negro troops enlisted in the Federal Army received a training that has had, we believe, much to do with the good conduct of the emancipated race. Their self-respect was raised, tidiness was promoted by daily inspections of person and of clothing, neatly packed knapsacks being brought out for weekly inspections. Schools were opened in many regiments, and they learned to read and write by tens of thousands. Not a little force of character was created among the non-commissioned officers by the responsibility put upon them, and when they were disbanded they left the service far better, stronger men than when they entered it. As a rule, they were commanded by men who took an interest in their moral welfare, and vice was held in check."

THE part taken by the Revenue cutter *Samuel Dexter* in saving the passengers of the wrecked Savannah steamer *Columbus*, and the gallant conduct of her officers, especially of Lieutenant John U. Rhodes, have directed the eyes of the country upon the Revenue Marine service during the past week, and furnished its friends in Congress with a powerful argument in favor of legislation providing for a retired list for this service. It is what officers do in the performance of duty from a manly and unselfish instinct, that appeal most powerfully to public sentiment, and the officers of the *Dexter* have done more for their service in a single hour than they could have done by cooling their heels for days together in the lobbies at Washington. The officers of the *Dexter* are Captain Eric Gabrielson; 1st Lieutenant Warrington D. Roath; 2d Lieutenants John U. Rhodes and Charles D. Kennedy; Chief Engineer Andrew L. Harrison; 1st Assistant Engineer Abram F. Rockefeller; 2d Assistant Engineer Charles W. Beckwith. Though especial attention has been directed to this particular vessel, it should not be understood that the action of the *Dexter* in this case was at all unusual. The record of lives saved by other vessels of the Revenue Marine service shows how good a work is done in this humane branch of public duty by our revenue cutters, aside from their other duties. We can see no argument for a retired list for our Navy which does not apply also to the Revenue Marine service, and we are sure naval officers will be glad to see the benefits of a retired list extended to this service. This is the richest government in the world, and at the same time the one which is most niggardly in providing for its public servants as a whole.

Mr. David G. Croly, formerly editor of the *New York World* and now of the *Real Estate Record*, is a gentleman fertile in ideas. His latest suggestion is that we should have a remodelling of the Cabinet, with Secretaries of State, of the Treasury, of Labor, of Transportation, of Commerce, of Manufactures, of Mining, of Education, of Justice, of Agriculture, of Statistics, Postmaster-General and a Secretary of Public Defence, in which should be two bureaus, one for the Army and the other for the Navy. Mr. Croly says, in *John Swinton's Paper*: "A Cabinet composed in this way would represent the great industrial public. Why should War and the Navy have two representatives in the Cabinet of a nation whose normal condition is that of peace? Why an Attorney-General, when necessary law points could be referred to some subordinate legal adviser? At present the vital interests of the country, including those of labor, trade and transportation, have no voice in the highest council of the nation. But these are merely hasty suggestions. Why should not the American people demand the calling of a national convention to remodel and revitalize our patched and antiquated constitution—a document admirably suited for the time it was constructed, but out of date now? The discussion of the fundamental principles of our Government would help to raise the tone of our political debate, and furnish parties with worthy issues for public consideration."

Mr. Croly is not only in favor of abolishing the Attorney-General, but is earnestly in favor of "a mitigation of the lawyer monopoly." He says: "One class, not over ten thousand in number throughout the United States, furnishes all our rulers, law-makers and judges; that is to say, the second-class lawyer furnishes nearly



all our Presidents, Cabinet Secretaries, Governors, Mayors, Congressmen, legislators and members of local governmental boards. I say second-class lawyers advisedly, for first-class lawyers can make more money in their plundering profession than in holding offices. The lawyer caste in this country makes all our laws, expounds them from the bench, and enforces them in executive offices. The lawyer is supreme everywhere, even in so-called reform organizations. Scarcely a newspaper in the country but what some lawyer has more to say than its managing editor."

It is proposed by Senator Hale, acting chairman of the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs, to take up his bill (S. 697), "To increase the efficiency of the Navy," as soon as the bill for the construction of vessels of war is disposed of. In the meantime he desires to have officers mature their opinions upon the subject and submit their views in writing to the committee. With that end in view, he addressed the following letter to Secretary Chandler on Monday last:

U. S. SENATE CHAMBER,  
WASHINGTON, JANUARY 21, 1884.

Hon. Wm. E. Chandler, Secretary of the Navy:

DEAR SIR: The Naval Appropriation act of Aug. 5, 1882, adopts as the appropriate number for the active personnel of the Navy: 6 rear admirals, 10 commodores, 45 captains, 85 commanders, 74 lieutenant-commanders, 325 lieutenants of both grades, 75 ensigns, making 620 line officers, and 170 medical officers, 96 pay officers, and 170 engineer officers.

Senate bill 697, introduced Dec. 17, 1883, entitled "A bill to promote the efficiency of the Navy," substantially adopts the numbers of the act of Aug. 5, and proposes to immediately reduce thereto the officers on the list by a process of selection by placing the officers not selected upon a supernumerary list.

Assuming as a just principle to govern naval legislation at the present time that the act of Aug. 5 prescribes reasonable numbers for the active list, and that it is desirable to now reduce the list to those numbers by some measure which shall tend to keep the quality of the personnel as high as possible and remove every source of weakness, while giving an honorable release or exemption from active duty to those who, from whatever cause, are least fitted therefor, the question arises whether the bill proposed (No. 697) is appropriately and justly adapted to effect the object sought; and if not, in what respect it is objectionable, and what changes or modifications, or what other plan should be adopted in order to accomplish the end in view.

On this question the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs will be glad to receive the views of the Navy Department and of all naval officers whose character, observation, and experience would tend to give weight to their opinions.

Yours truly,

EUGENE HALE.

Upon its receipt Secretary Chandler endorsed it as follows, and sent it around to all the bureaus:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, Jan. 21, 1884.

Naval officers who are willing to carefully examine and form a matured opinion upon the question stated in the foregoing letter are requested to communicate their views to Senator Hale.

WM. E. CHANDLER, Secretary.

From the orange groves of Florida comes the information that amongst them, near Zellwood, is gradually forming a colony of Army and ex-Army officers. Lieutenant Oas. Sillmer, 31 Artillery, has two groves of 15 acres, and is residing in them at present with his family, being on leave from San Antonio. Lieut. G. T. Bartlett, 3d Artillery, has 12 acres under way. Capt. Foote, 8th Cavalry, is negotiating for 20 acres. Capt. Tiernon, 3d Artillery, has an interest in a grove of 160 acres. Lieut. Shunk, 8th Cavalry, is about to invest in a grove. Colonels Hazard, Norton and others have groves in the vicinity of Zellwood. Surgeon Chas. B. Byrne, U. S. A., has a few groves and some land at Custis and Fort Mason, 12 miles from Zellwood. The location is described as beautiful and healthy, and all that can be desired as a pleasant retreat when the cares of active service have been laid aside forever. The officers we have referred to are now uniting in the chorus:

"Yes, sing the song of the orange tree,  
With its leaves of velvet green,  
With its luscious fruit of sunset hue,  
The fairest that ever was seen.  
The grape may have its bacchanal verse,  
To praise the fig we are free,  
But homage I pay to the queen of all,  
The glorious orange tree."

Mr. HARRIS presented in the Senate on Wednesday, a memorial of Rear Admiral Samuel P. Carter, asking that he be granted pay according to his rank as Rear Admiral on the retired list. The petition represents that he was retired from active service with the rank of commodore; subsequently, by act of Aug. 15, 1876, was promoted from that rank to the rank of Rear-Admiral. The act referred to authorized the President to promote those commodores who had commanded squadrons during the war, or who had performed highly meritorious services, etc. Under said act the petitioner believes that Congress intended more than a barren compliment, and really designed to give some substantial evidence of the esteem in which his conduct was held. Contrary to his convictions, the accounting officers of the Secretary did not concur with him in that opinion, and refused the increased pay which he believed he should receive. The petitioner respectfully refers Congress to the record of his public services, and urges that the same justice be given him as that extended to a brother officer, Rear Admiral Stembel, under similar circumstances.

We are glad to learn that our suggestion of last week has been acted upon, and that it is proposed to so amend H. R. 2595, providing for promotions of lieutenants after fourteen years service as to make it applicable to all lieutenants of the line. It is also proposed to add the following:

Provided, That officers in the line of the Army now in the service who have been restored to their present rank by act of Congress, shall, for the purposes of this act only, be considered as having been continuously in the service as lieutenants; And provided further, That the provisions of the second section of this act shall not attach to any officer in the line of the Army now in the service who served in the War of the Rebellion, either in the Volunteer or Regular Army, or who has a 1 been graduated from the United States Military Academy, Artillery School, or School of Application for Cavalry and Infantry.

After these exceptions have been provided for, the law regulating promotions of lieutenants of Artillery after fourteen years' service, will attach to all alike, and under the same conditions as now provided by law, and Congress will only be called upon to extend to the lieutenants of the line the benefits of existing law, and not to introduce any new feature. A strong effort will be made to pass the bill in this form. Congress has already recognized the principle of promotion for length of service by section 1207, Revised Statutes, so far as to apply it to lieutenants of Engineers and Ordnance, and there is no good reason why it should not be extended to the other arms of the Service, and indeed to other ranks than that of lieutenant. But perhaps it may be well to secure this much first, as the logic of existing law is strongly in its favor. It will be a mistake, however, to limit the application of the principle of examination for promotion, except so far as to exempt officers who served in the War of the Rebellion.

We are informed that engines upon the model of those in the *Trenton* are to be substituted for those recommended for the *Chicago* by the Advisory Board. On this subject the *New York Herald* says:

We knew it would happen. The engines designed for the new cruiser *Chicago*, which vessel was to be the beginning of a new and effective navy, have already been tinkered and reconstructed on paper to such an extent that the designer has resigned his position as a member of the Naval Advisory Board. It is said that the Navy Department will have difficulty in finding any one to fill the vacancy. It certainly will, unless it will accept some one with a rage for remodeling engines. To "improve" engines of war vessels so that their effectiveness in point of speed may be lessened seems to be, and always to have been, the most fascinating of the many industries of the Department. Why a war vessel should be as slow as the heaviest tub afloat is beyond the comprehension of men who know most about steam navigation; but there must be some purpose in it, otherwise there would not always have been a determined effort to rob our ships of all chances to make fast time. There are people uncharitable enough to believe that rebuilding engines is merely an excuse to make work at navy-yards at election time, or to help rich machinists who contribute largely to campaign funds; but even if this is so, why should all the improvements work backward?

THE dynamite gun, described in the *JOURNAL* of last week as being at the Norwalk Iron Works, is now in the hands of some of our Artillery officers who have commenced a series of trials of which we shall give the result when concluded. Their purpose is to test the ballistic qualities of the gun, and to develop them to the utmost. If the result is satisfactory it will be well to transfer the gun to General Abbot at Willet's Point for a trial with the higher explosives. It is fully expected that a pressure of at least 1500 pounds to the square inch can be obtained with this gun, and that it will throw at least fifty pounds of dynamite one mile with considerable accuracy. If such a gun can be made to work it will effect a revolution in naval warfare similar to the monitor, and that it is a practical success is confidently believed by intelligent officers who have seen it. It will put into our possession an auxiliary means of harbor defence which can be promptly obtained, as any first class machine shop can turn out such a gun in less than a month.

If our Yankee inventors keep on we shall in time find a means of assailing Europe by cable, if we are so minded. The inventor of this particular instrument is a most mild mannered gentleman of typical American character whose appearance indicates anything but a disposition to the invention of weapons of destruction.

THE Senate has recalled all the Army nominations confirmed last week, and published in the *JOURNAL*. This was made necessary by an oversight on the part of that body in confirming several nominations which were dependent upon others that were not confirmed, being held over by the Senate Military Committee. As we stated Captain Alfred T. Smith and 2nd Lieutenants Bigelow and Lassiter are those improperly confirmed. Their promotions were consequent upon those of Maj. Brotherton and 1st Lieutenants Cooper and Vinal, whose nominations are still in the committee, not acted upon. The Senate's attention was called to its error by a letter from the Secretary of War. It is fortunate that the mistake was discovered in time, as,

otherwise, a serious complication in the matter of promotion would have arisen which might have resulted in several officers losing their commissions. The Military Committee expect to dispose of all the nominations, including those which have been pending for several weeks at its meeting on Wednesday night next.

A "PRIVATE in his third enlistment" writes: "Say what you like, the majority of the enlisted men are satisfied with the Army; the real cause of desertion rests with the individual, not the Service. There are some points of duty which may not suit the feelings of all, but then you can't suit every one. Nothing could benefit the Service more than that all appointments of non-commissioned officers should hinge upon the verdict of a Board of Regimental Officers after due examination." With this last statement we are inclined to agree, and as company commanders would have first to recommend the individual for appointment under the examination system, their wishes in the premises would have to be considered. At any rate, the system seems well worth a trial.

GENERAL SHERMAN and General Drum attended the anniversary dinner of the "Clover Club" at Philadelphia on the evening of Jan. 17, and were the recipients of much attention. General Sherman's speech was, as usual, a gem in its way, and evoked much enthusiasm. In the course of his remarks he said:

Although I have retired to the home of my choice, from which I hope never again to come East, save as a friend on a visit, I have a daughter living among you, and I will come here yearly, if not oftener. I want to pass the rest of my days in peace and quiet, doing all I can to make this country what it is in effect—the land of the greatest promise and the greatest happiness. My ambition is to see American life made refined and beautiful, and in the short time that may be left to me I trust to see no more shooting, no more bullets, killing, maiming, or giving pain, even to feelings. I wish you all joy and happiness here in Philadelphia, and I will endeavor to carry back a little portion of the pleasure I have had here with me to St. Louis, where there are many warm hearts, and to San Francisco, where there are many big hearts. I will endeavor to carry back with me a memory of this night, and I assure you that I will join with you in trying to make America not only the greatest land on earth, but the best, the most beloved.

DURING the year 1883, 8,753 men were examined by the cavalry officers recruiting in New York City, and 638 of them accepted for enlistment. Of these 257 were native born; 171 were of German birth; 142 born in Ireland; 45 in England; 6 in Scotland; 4 in France, and 19 in other foreign countries. Of the number enlisted, 188 were laborers, and all of the others had some trade or profession; 418 of the rejected applicants were minors of American birth. If these boys could have been assigned to a cavalry school, as suggested by Col. Sumner, of the 5th Cavalry, in the article we published some time ago, we should have had a valuable addition to the material from which to recruit the cavalry, and these youths would have received a practical discipline and training of the greatest possible value to them.

CAPTAIN Henry H. Humphreys, informs us that his father, General Humphreys', disease was not agria pectoris as was reported. The order we published January 5th, gave a correct but brief statement of his services. As a previous statement credited him with the command of a division at Malvern Hill it may be well to state more specifically that during the campaign ending in the fight of Malvern, General Humphreys was Chief of the Topographical Engineers, Army of the Potomac. On the day of that engagement (early) he was directed by General McClellan, to close the lines of the Army. This he did, visiting the troops, selecting the ground and posting them, excepting the corps of Genl. Fitz-John Porter; whose selection of position met with his approval. He did not become Chief of Staff to General Meade until after the fight at Gettysburg, preferring to take his chances with his Division (Hooker's) in that memorable fight. November 24, 1864, he was assigned to the command of the 2nd Corps and continued with it until the close of the war.

THE House has this week passed, by a vote of 135 to 14, a bill to abolish what is known as "the ironclad oath," providing that no person hereafter shall be required to take the oath therein prescribed as a condition precedent to the holding of any office, or to serving as a juror, or to the acquisition of any right under the laws of the United States. The question is raised whether the words italicised do not open the door to the presentation of claims now debarred for disloyalty.

ADVANCE copies of the new Army Register are promised by the Government printer on Saturday. The new Navy Register has been in the hands of the Department for some days. Copies for distribution may be expected within the next ten days.



The House promptly passed by a unanimous vote a bill making an appropriation to fit out an expedition to relieve Lieut. Greely, leaving the amount to be expended to the discretion of the President. In the Senate the bill was passed with an amendment providing that the relief party shall be volunteers, but receded from the amendment in conference committee. Senators Ingalls and Hale tried to fix a limit to the expenditure, one suggesting a million and the other half a million. The bill provides for the purchase of not to exceed three vessels, and all expenditures necessary for manning, equipping, and supplying them, and for any land journeys which may be required.

As both the Secretary of War and the Surgeon General are understood to be in favor of abolishing the office of Assistant Surgeon-General, it is possible that a bill for that purpose will be introduced. General Murray is perfectly satisfied with his present assistant, Dr. Huntington, and were an officer on duty outside to be appointed Assistant Surgeon-General, he would remain at his present post, and would have nothing but an empty honor.

The report that John Roach is charging the detailed drawings of the *Chicago* up to the Government is emphatically denied by the Naval Advisory Board. Clause fifth of the contract for the construction of the cruisers requires the contractor to pay for such plans as it may be necessary to prepare, and to submit them for approval to the Board, which is done.

Mr. Miers Coryell has resigned as a member of the Advisory Board, finding himself unable to give the necessary time and attention to his duties. In accepting his resignation, to date from Jan. 14, Secretary Chandler commends his zeal and fidelity, and says: "If, as cannot be doubted, the engines of the new vessels of the Navy shall prove successful, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have contributed materially to the favorable result."

It is sufficient this week to call attention to the two bills for the benefit of the Army, introduced by Mr. Finerty. One (H. R. 8117) to reorganize the infantry regiments of the Army on the skeleton battalion plan, and for other purposes, and the other (H. R. 3118) "to regulate promotions," etc., giving all officers below the rank of colonel promotion after ten years' service in the Army. They will bear study, and we shall have occasion to refer to them again. Mr. Finerty also proposes to restore the fuel allowance, and to increase the pay of enlisted men. He has another bill conferring brevets for Indian service. Congressman Finerty, a despatch from Washington says, "has had great experience in Indian campaigns, having been through the Sioux wars with Generals Crook and Merritt, and taken part in the Ute and Apache campaigns."

At this late date a resolution has been presented in Congress, by Mr. George, providing for an examination and investigation into the massacre by Indians of Dr. Marcus Whitman and others in the Columbia River Valley, in Oregon, in 1847, and to report a list of the names, ages, and sexes of those massacred; and also of all those who survived or escaped said massacre, and now living, with their present places of abode; and what property was destroyed.

GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, U. S. A., will leave for Europe in March to be absent for four months. The Commander of the *Platte* during his absence has not yet been designated, but it may be General Gibson, U. S. A., the senior colonel on duty in the Department, and save one, the senior colonel on the active list of the Army.

The first six inch steel hooped gun for the new steel cruisers has been completed at the Washington Navy Yard, and will be sent to Annapolis for trial. It has not yet been determined when the test of the gun will be made. The powder for it has not yet been received.

The New York *Commercial Advertiser* of Friday reports that Lieutenant-Colonel Perin will be promoted Assistant Surgeon-General over the heads of his seniors, who will unite in opposing his confirmation.

We are told on good authority that Medical Director Francis M. Gunnell will "undoubtedly be nominated for Surgeon General of the Navy next week."

It is gratifying to know from statistics that we of the United States only consume about twenty quarts of beer per head, while Great Britain goes up to 125, and Belgium to 168. But, perhaps, our virtue is like that of the good young man who persistently refused wine, but ended by calling for a "quint of gold eye."

## WASHINGTON NOTES.

On Monday the Court of Claims rendered judgment to the amount of \$2,700 in favor of Major Anson Mills, 10th Cavalry. His claim was against the United States for rent of the land in Texas on which Fort Whitman is located.

Proposals for removing the old Navy Department building will be advertised for by Col. Casey in a few days. It is to be torn down by April 1st, when the foundation for the new west wing of the State, War, and Navy Department Building will be laid.

Engineer in Chief Charles H. Loring arrived in Washington on Tuesday from New York, and immediately assumed charge of his office. Although the bureau has been without a chief since June last, through the efforts of Chief Clerk Smith and Chief Engineer Snyder, the affairs of the office have been kept in such excellent condition that Mr. Loring found no difficulty in becoming familiar with the business of the office. After two days spent mostly in receiving friends, who called to pay their respects and to tender congratulations, Mr. Loring left for New York, where he will remain until next week clearing up the affairs of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and arranging to bring his household goods to Washington. He will be accompanied by his daughter upon his return.

Suit was entered in the Court of Claims this week by Capt. William M. Muse, through his counsel, Messrs. Jones and Lewis, for \$313.77. According to the brief filed in the case the accounting officer of the Treasury did not give him credit for volunteer service as prescribed by section 1600 R. S. Capt. Muse served as paymaster steward in the volunteer navy for a period of one year, eight months and ten days, which if credited would make his fourth five years commence July, 1877, instead of March 18, 1879, and entitle him to the amount mentioned, calculating the ten per cent. increase laid down in the Tyler case.

Messrs. Jones and Lines, for the claimant, and Mr. Geo. L. Douglass, for the Government, appeared on Thursday and argued and submitted to the Court of Claims the case of Lieut. (Junior Grade) Lucien Young vs. the United States. This claim is for an increase of \$200 in his annual pay, under the provision of section 1556 R. S., fixing the pay of masters. March 3, 1879, the claimant then an ensign, was advanced thirty numbers in rank, for extraordinary heroism. Under the provisions of section 1467, viz.: "Line officers shall take rank in each grade according to the dates of their commissions," it became necessary for the Department to fix a date in claimant's new commission. The date was accordingly fixed as November 24, 1877, and the commission expressing it was signed by President Hayes March 3, 1879. Application was made to the accounting officers at the expiration of the first five years from November 24, 1877, for the increase above mentioned, and was refused, the accounting officers holding that the date of commission from which the pay was to be computed was the date of its signature, viz.: March 3, 1879.

A decision was rendered by the U. S. Supreme Court in the Commander Graham mileage case on Monday last. The action of the Court of Claims, which was favorable to the claimant, was affirmed, Chief Justice Waite, saying: "The question presented by this case is whether that portion of section 2 of the act of Congress of March 3, 1835, allowing naval officers 10 cents per mile for travelling expenses under orders within the United States, embraced also travel under orders abroad and by sea. Graham, an officer of the Navy, went under orders from New York to San Francisco via Panama. He was furnished with transportation by the Government at a cost to it of \$150. He travelled 6,134 miles, and completed his journey September 16, 1872. The court below gave him \$463.40 (\$613.40 minus \$150), holding him to be entitled to 10 cents per mile under section 2 of the act of March 3, 1835. This court says we are unable to distinguish this case in principle from that of the United States against Temple (105 U. S. 97), in which it was decided that an officer of the Navy who, while engaged in public business, travelled under orders by land or sea, not being in a public vessel of the United States, was entitled, under the act of June 30, 1876, to mileage at the rate of 8 cents a mile for the whole distance travelled, whether by sea or land."

The claims of the following officers for longevity pay were settled by the Second Comptroller during the week: Bainbridge, Edmund C., Captain 5th Art., U. S. A.; Dunn, Thos. S., Major, U. S. A., Retired; Hooten, Mott, Capt. 22d U. S. Inf.; Stewart, James, Capt., U. S. A.; Wolverton, William D., Major and Surg., U. S. A.; Scully, James W., Capt. and A. Q. M.; Rawles, J. B., Capt. 5th U. S. Art.; Reed, Horatio B., Col. 22d N. Y. Cav., Lieut. 5th U. S. Inf.; Woodward, George A., Col., U. S. A., Retired.

## RECENT DEATHS.

COMMODORE TIMOTHY A. HUNT, U. S. Navy, retired, died at his residence at New Haven, Conn., on Monday, January 21, aged seventy-nine years. The disease was congestion of the kidneys, and he had been ill about four weeks previous to his death. Commodore Hunt was born in Connecticut, and entered the Navy from that State February 1, 1825; passed through the intermediate grades and attained the rank of Commodore January 2, 1863. He served in the sloop *Vincennes*, Pacific Squadron, 1827, and again in 1830; in the *Warren*, 1829, and *Delaware*, 1833-4, Mediterranean Squadron; receiving ships *Boston*, 1840, and *New York*, 1843; *Brandywine*, E. Indies, 1845; commanding ordnance transport *Electra*, 1847-8; Navy-yard, Boston, 1850, and again on

ordnance duty there, 1862-7; frigate *Columbia*, Home Squadron, 1853-5, and in command of the *Narragansett*, Pacific Squadron, 1860-1. He was last on special duty at New London, Conn., 1869, and was placed on the retired list July 23, 1877. Since then he has resided at New Haven, the place of his birth. The funeral took place on Thursday, and was largely attended by the relatives and friends of the deceased officer.

The death at Oakland, Cal., January 16, of the venerable widow of Colonel George Croghan, U. S. Army, will recall, to a few, the memory of that distinguished officer whose deeds at Fort Meigs and Fort Stephenson, in 1813, brought much credit to the American Army, and which Congress duly attested by the presentation of a gold medal. He died, in 1849, at New Orleans.

CHARLES COOMBS, a veteran of the War of 1812, died at Williamsburg, New York, early in the week, of old age. He was one of five brothers, noted in their youth as leading frontiersmen in the northern part of New York. All of them fought as privates in the War of 1812. Their father, Peter Coombs, served through most of the Revolution.

MARY BRENNAN, the widow of a Trafalgar veteran under Admiral Nelson, died recently at Spencerport, New York, in her ninety-first year. Eliza Susan Quincy, daughter of the late Josiah Quincy, President of Harvard College, and a great grandchild of Josiah Quincy, of Revolutionary fame, died a few days ago in Quincy, Mass., in her eighty-fifth year.

MAJOR-GENERAL JOHN HENRY BROWN, a retired officer of the British Royal Artillery, died at Philadelphia, Saturday, Jan. 19, at the age of fifty-one. His promotion was rapid, owing to distinguished bravery in the Crimean War. A gentleman attached to our office knew him in 1861, he being then but twenty-eight years of age, a brevet Colonel, holding a colonel's command, and generally known as the youngest colonel in the Service.

BENJAMIN BOVILLE, said to be one of the Six Hundred who participated in the charge of the Light Brigade at Balaklava, died in Troy, N. Y., January 20, and another veteran, Darius Wheeler, a drummer boy in the War of 1812, died on Monday, near Baltimore.

CHARLES HANDY RUSSELL, one of the oldest members of the New York Chamber of Commerce, a prominent business man, and a son of Major Thomas Russell, of the Continental Army, died at his residence, 417 Fifth avenue, New York, on the evening of Monday, January 21.

CAPTAIN JOHN B. EAGLE, formerly of the U. S. Army, died at Crawfordsville, Indiana, December 26, last. He entered the Army as 2d Lieutenant, 17th Infantry, Feb. 23, 1866, and attained the rank of Captain, June 9, 1875, having, in the meantime, been transferred to the 17th Infantry. He resigned September 18, 1878.

MRS. FANNIE M. RECTOR, a daughter of the veteran General Pitscairn Morrison, U. S. A., died at Carondelet, Mo., on Sunday last.

The widow of General J. B. Magruder, formerly of the U. S. Army, died at Florence, Italy, January 1.

(From the Southern Worker)

## TESTIMONY TO COLORED TROOPS.

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER,  
FORT SILL, INDIAN TERRITORY, Nov. 23d, 1883. }

General S. C. Armstrong, Hampton, Va.:

GENERAL: In reply to yours, I have found the colored troops, excellent as soldiers. In the field, they are patient, and cheerful; under hardships, or deprivations, never growling, or discontented. Arriving in camp, after hours in rain, or cold, they will sing and be happy. An enforced reduction of rations is received with good nature. They are vigilant as sentinels. If properly led, they will fight well; without such, they have not the staying power of the white man, nor his individuality when thrown upon his own resources. They go rather in crowds, the result of habit and surroundings, and the former habit of dependence upon a leader—a result of slavery. In this particular, they are like children. They do not feel the importance of responsibility for property, and in this respect, are neglectful, causing loss to the Government, but this loss is more than compensated for by the much fewer desertions than in the white troops. The duty imposed on officers in looking after them is on this account much greater than with whites. In garrison, they are sober, clean, soldier-like, and respectful, and acquire, under good instructors, a ready knowledge of their duties. In over two years time, at my post, I have seen but one soldier under the influence of liquor. I believe the percentage of discharges for alcoholism, among the blacks last year, was about 4 in 1000 and the white 75 in 1000. These figures speak for themselves. I believe as a rule, they are better fitted for soldiers in our Service, in many things, and that their surroundings before entering the Army are respectable and good. The prejudice against the Negro, makes it unpopular for duty with the men as soldiers, but those who have them, have far less trouble than others, and find in the end an agreeable service outside the prejudice attending the same. They are inveterate gamblers, a matter hard to stop, in fact I have never attempted it. Anything I may add in favor of the "colored troops" possible I will do.

Yours very truly, GUY V. HENRY.

My experience covering about four years in garrison and field service in Texas with colored and white troops leads me to endorse General Henry's statement concerning the character of the colored soldiers.

Geo. LEROY BROWN, Comd.



## FORTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE.

The bill (S. 346), to amend section 1860, of the R. S., so as not to exclude retired Army officers from holding a civil office in the Territories, was passed in the Senate, on Monday, by a vote of 34 to 12. It met with some opposition from Mr. Plumb, who took the ground that the pay of a retired officer should be sufficient so far as official emoluments ought to go. He said:

I never want to see the time when an Army officer will hold any civil position or be required by law to perform any civil duty. I do not want to see those instruments which we keep up for the destruction of human life ever put into that civil employment which concerns itself with the productive power of the country, with the arts of peace, and with the performance of the peaceful functions of government. The Army, as I think, has no place, either in gross or in detail, in the administration of a republican government except in time of war and for the purposes of war, and, as I said, this is only a step now in the direction of pensioning, if I may use that term without offence, all the excess of Army officers upon the civil places of the Government, and thus closing the avenues to the ambition of the people of the country who have not been fortunate enough to be educated at West Point and to be in receipt of a salary at least sufficient to afford a decent living.

He was replied to by Mr. Hawley, who said:

The case that gave origin to this suggestion, if I recollect correctly, was this: There is a disabled officer, who has been passed upon by the Board as unfit for any active service, living, I think, in Washington Territory. His income is small, for his office was of a low grade. The people where he lives chose to elect him clerk of the county court. It was found upon looking at the statute that he could not hold the position. That poor fellow may work at anything else under the sun; if he is a shoemaker he can make shoes; he may get a clerkship in a railroad office, or be a clerk in a drug store if he can hobble about and do the work; but the Government proposes to say that the danger to republican institutions is such that all the people of his county in a Territory may not make that man the clerk of the county court. I say with the Senator from Missouri, if we cannot trust our fellow-citizens to give a broken-down, retired officer some little petty appointment, to elect him constable or clerk of the county court, the country is in great danger.

Capt. George D. Hill and Lieut. John H. Smith are said to be interested in this measure at this time. They are both living in Washington Territory, under whose government they have been tendered positions.

The Senate on Wednesday passed the resolution (S. R. 26) granting permission to Ensign L. K. Reynolds, U. S. N., to accept the decoration of the Royal and Imperial Order of Francis Joseph, from the Government of Austria, for gallant conduct in rescuing the crew of the Austro-Hungarian bark *Olivo*. Messrs. Plumb and Maxey did not take kindly to this resolution. Mr. Morgan defended the resolution and secured its passage by a vote of 30 to 13.

A resolution reported from the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations authorizes Rear Admiral J. W. A. Nicholson to accept a medal conferred upon him by the King of Sweden and Norway; Rear Admiral R. W. Shufeldt to accept a sword, a Persian carpet, and other valuable articles presented to him by the Sultan of Zanzibar, and Rear Admiral C. H. Baldwin to accept a gold box, with a portrait of the Emperor of Russia set in diamonds, presented to him by the Emperor on the occasion of his coronation at Moscow.

A bill authorizing the removal of the remains of the late Gen. Ord from Havana to Washington passed the Senate on Friday.

The report of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs on the Fitz John Porter bill was submitted Jan. 23. It is the same as that submitted in the XLVIIIth Congress, except that the committee has appended to the report Gen. Grant's article contributed to the *North American Review* on Porter, and letters to the latter from Gens. Grant, Terry, Walker, and others, on his case, Grant's letter bearing date of Nov. 3, 1883. Senator Logan submitted as the views of the minority the adverse report made by him from the Committee on Military Affairs of the XLVIIIth Congress. Senators Harrison and Hawley concurred in it. The majority report says: "The committee have nothing new to report in this case different from their report to the Senate of the 47th Congress. They believe now, as they believed then, that the proceedings of the Advisory Board exhausts the subject, and they therefore report the bill, which is the same as that passed by the Senate in the last Congress, and recommend its passage."

No action was taken at the meeting of the committee on Tuesday on the nominations which were laid over from last week. The greater portion of the session was spent in discussion on the Porter bill. The House resolution authorizing the admission to the Military Academy of Antonio Barrois, the son of the ex-Governor of Guatemala, and Jose Victor Zorvala, the son of the President of Nicaragua, passed the committee without opposition. The following bills were agreed to and favorably reported: S. 363, to reimburse Asst. Surgeon Edward Vollum, U. S. A., for property lost. S. 473, to pay Geo. P. Webster the amount suspended in his accounts. The report of the committee submitted last year was adopted on this bill. S. 543, to allow Martin L. Bundy, late paymaster, U. S. A., \$719.47 for the forage of two horses not drawn by him; S. 667, to appoint Sergeant J. C. Jorgensen, Troop K, 4th Cavalry, a 2d lieutenant of cavalry; S. 156, to amend section 661, R. S., making an annual appropriation to provide arms for the militia. This bill was agreed to at the last meeting, but as the report had not been prepared was laid over until this meeting, when a report was submitted by Mr. Sewell, which is published under our militia heading.

Chief Engineer Henderson, Lieutenant Commanders Howell and Barbour and Naval Constructor Wilson were before the Senate Naval Committee on Saturday last to give their views on the new vessels of war. A special meeting is called for next Monday, when Naval Constructor Fernald, of the Advisory Board, is expected to testify if well enough. The intention seems to be to go into the subject extensively before a report is

made. The testimony is not to be made public until a bill has been reported. The nominations of Drs. Pritchard and May have been favorably reported and they have been confirmed. The session of the Commission on Thursday was chiefly occupied with the Greeley relief resolution.

General Benét explained his estimates for Ordnance before a sub-committee at a special meeting held at the Portland Flats on Thursday evening. The report in the daily papers that General Hancock was to appear before the committee, doubtless arose from some confusion of his identity with that of Representative Hancock, one of the sub-committee.

A letter was received from the Secretary of the Treasury transmitting, in compliance with the Senate resolution of Jan. 16, the opinion of the Attorney-General in the so-called longevity clauses of the Naval Appropriation act of Aug. 5, 1883, and March 3, 1883. This is the decision in the Boatwain McDonald case, to which allusion was made in the JOURNAL at the time it was rendered.

Mr. McMillan submitted in the Senate on Tuesday the following amendment to Mr. Plumb's bill (S. 487) to increase the efficiency of the Army:

*Provided*, That assistant surgeons of the Army of over fifteen years' service who were commissioned surgeons of U. S. volunteers by the President, thereby ranking with surgeons of the Regular Army during the War of the Rebellion, and having served three years or longer in such grade, until honorably mustered out of the service, and then entering the regular Medical Corps by selection, shall, if pronounced unfit for active service by the Retiring Board, and by reason of disability contracted in the line of duty, be retired with the rank of major.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE.

The only bill acted upon by the House Com. on Military Affairs on Tuesday was that to retire Gen. Averil with the rank and pay of brigadier general, which was agreed to and favorably reported after an amendment was made to retire him with the rank of colonel. This was done in accordance with the action of the committee last week on the bill to retire Gen. Pleasanton. His bill was amended so as to retire him as a brigadier general instead of major general, as originally intended by the bill; and as Gen. Averil had served under Gen. Pleasanton, the committee did not feel disposed to give him the same rank as that given his superior officer.

Mr. Slocum, at his own request (on account of personal illness in the matter) has been relieved as a sub-committee in charge of the bills H. R. 354 and 1017, to increase the efficiency of the Inspector General's Department, and Mr. Lyman, of Massachusetts, has been appointed to relieve him. Mr. Steele has charge of all the bills providing for the removal of the charge of desertion, and will shortly report a bill designed to cover all the pending bills. There are about seventy of these cases now before the committee, and as many more are expected before the session is over.

The Sub-Committee of the House on the Naval Appropriation bill consisting of Messrs. Hutchins, Randall and Calkins, are hard at work on that measure. They spent Tuesday evening at the Navy Department with the Secretary of the Navy discussing naval matters generally, and on Thursday night by invitation, the committee and the several heads of bureaus of the Navy Department, met at Secretary Chandler's house, where consideration of the bill was again resumed. As previously mentioned the disposition of the committee is to cut down the appropriations to the smallest limit. What action the committee will take with reference to the personnel the members themselves do not yet know. The experience of last year will probably teach them to leave off all matters that will effect that part of the service, and let the Naval Committees take that in hand.

In the House Mr. Boutelle said: I ask the unanimous consent of the House to present the following resolution for adoption at this time:

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, requested to inform this House whether it be true, as stated in public print, that for several years past maps, diagrams, etc., in the case of Fitz-John Porter have been submitted to the members of each graduating class of the pupils of the Military Academy at West Point, for the purpose of inviting their criticisms of the proceedings and finding of a general court-martial held in pursuance of law and duly approved by the Secretary of War and the Commander-in-Chief.

*And be it further resolved*, That it said report be true, the Secretary be requested to inform this House by whose authority or instigation the minds of these successive graduating classes of youths, educated at public expense for the Military Service of the Government, were thus directed to the discussion and questioning of the official action of their lawful superiors.

*And be it further resolved*, That if it be true, as alleged, that these youths, just emerging from their course of study and just entering upon their service as subordinate officers of the United States Army, have been persuaded or encouraged or permitted to discredit the action of their superiors by expressing their opinion "that the action of Fitz-John Porter was perfectly proper, and that had he done otherwise he would have committed a grave military error," the Secretary be requested to inform this House whether, in his opinion, the incitement to or the expression of such disregard for the judgment of the highest military tribunal is not "prejudicial to good order and military discipline," and calculated to foster a spirit of insubordination and to inspire among the officers thus educated for the United States Army a demoralizing and dangerous contempt for the authority of law.

Several objections were raised to considering the resolution, and among others by Mr. Maginnis, who said: I object to the resolution in its present form. If the gentleman will include in his resolution the maps of Washington's campaigns and those of Napoleon and others, I will not.

Mr. Wood, from the House Committee on Claims, reported back adversely the bill (H. R. 520) for the payment of damages to officers stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas, for property destroyed by cyclone, April 7, 1882. It was laid upon the table, and the accompanying report ordered to be printed.

The House Military Committee on Friday reported favorably the bill to retire Col. H. J. Hunt as major general. The House Naval Committee reported favorably bill 2265, to abolish grade of junior ensign. The bill for the restoration of naval cadets dismissed under act of Aug. 5 will be reported favorably by the sub-committee next Tuesday. Several members of the

committee will oppose it, but it will probably receive enough votes to carry it through the full committee.

At the meeting of the House Naval Committee, on Tuesday, the bill H. R. 3311, to establish a navy yard and depot of supplies on the Mississippi River, at Algiers, and H. R. 3326, to pay Commander Dennis W. Mullan, U. S. N., for the loss of his baggage and naval outfit, on November 28, 1863, were disagreed to, and the members having them in charge directed to report them to the House adversely. The following bills were favorably passed upon and reported: H. R. 2340, to appoint Assistant Engineer John W. Saville a passed assistant engineer on the retired list; H. R. 1615, for the relief of the heirs of the late Langley B. Culley; H. R. 1567, for relief of the legal heirs of the late Capt. John G. Tod of the Texas Navy; H. R. 237, to reimburse John P. Gregson, secretary to Commander-in-Chief, for expenses incurred at Rio in pursuance of the order of Rear Admiral J. H. Strong. The several bills providing for the restoration of the naval cadets dismissed under the act of August 5, 1883, were considered, but not finally agreed upon. The matter is to be taken up again at the next meeting, when a favorable report is confidently expected. The bills, H. R. 2649 and 2662, for the rewarding of Chief Engineer Melville, U. S. N., for meritorious services, etc., have been referred to the sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Talbott, Eaton, and Thomas. The chairman of the committee has appointed the following sub-committees: On Marine Schools and Academy—Messrs. Morse, Talbott, and Thomas; on the Construction of Vessels—the Chairman, Messrs. Buchanan and Goff; on Restoration, Rank and Pay—Talbott, Eaton, and Thomas; on the Marine Corps—Messrs. Buchanan, McAdoo, and Boutelle; on Navy Yards—the Chairman, Messrs. Morse and Harmer; on Retirements—Messrs. Boutelle, Ballentine, and Goff; on Prize Money—McAdoo, Ballentine, and Harmer.

## BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE.

S. 1138, Mr. Logan. To authorize the Government of the United States to receive certain lands and property in the city of Erie, Pennsylvania, and to establish a home for indigent soldiers and sailors.

S. 1165, Mr. Plumb (by request). For the relief of certain officers who have served a specified number of years as captains or as company and regimental staff officers. *Be it enacted*, etc., That whenever any commissioned officer on the active list of the Army shall have served as a captain or a company and regimental staff officer, either in the Volunteer or Regular Service, for twenty years, he shall be entitled to and shall receive the pay and allowances of the next higher grade.

S. 1192, Mr. Logan (and H. R. 3557, Mr. Bingham). To amend the longevity record of Captain William H. Gail, military messenger, Q. M. D., and that in the recomputation of the same for all purposes under existing law he shall be credited with and receive the benefits of continuous service in his grade from the date of his rank, as established in the act approved March 2, 1882, to the date of the acceptance of reappointment under said act, any apparent provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding: *Provided*, That he shall receive no pay for the period he was out of service.

S. 1222, Mr. McMillan. That in recognition of the valuable services of John Jones, late captain of the 1st Minnesota Battery, especially in the defense of Fort Ridgely when attacked by the Sioux Indians in the year 1862, the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to nominate and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint the said John Jones to be a captain of artillery, to be placed on the retired list, with such pay and emoluments as are now authorized by law for officers of that grade.

S. 1248. To reimburse Lieut. Frank P. Gross, U. S. Army, for property lost by the burning of his quarters at Fort Clark, Texas, April 19, 1869.

S. 1256, Mr. Logan. For the removal of the remains of the late Major General E. O. C. Ord, U. S. A., from Havana, Cuba, to Washington, D. C.

## BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE.

H. Res. 108, Mr. Morey. *Whereas*, By joint resolution of Congress approved July 25, 1868, all persons who have served as officers, non-commissioned officers, privates, or other enlisted men in the Regular Army, volunteer, or militia forces of the United States during the war of the Rebellion, and have been honorably discharged from the Service or still remain in the same, are entitled to wear on occasions of ceremony the distinctive Army badge ordered for or adopted by the Army corps and divisions, respectively, in which they served; and *Whereas*, The society of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States and the society of the Grand Army of the Republic are organizations of "the officers and honorably discharged officers" and of the "soldiers and sailors and honorably discharged soldiers and sailors" of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps of the United States who were actually engaged in "maintaining the honor, integrity, and supremacy of the National Government" during the war of the Rebellion: *Therefore, Resolved*, That the distinctive badge adopted by the society of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States and that adopted by the society of the Grand Army of the Republic may be worn upon all occasions of ceremony by any member of said organizations, as now provided by law for corps and division badges.

H. R. 2296, Mr. Lacey. Provides that the accounting officers of the Treasury Department shall make no charge on account of any overpayment made previous to the 16th of March, 1883, to any non-commissioned officer, musician, or private in the late civil war, and no prosecution shall be instituted or further prosecuted to recover such overpayment.

H. R. 2470, Mr. Belmont. Appropriates \$548 to reimburse Colonel James O. Duane, brevet brigadier-general, U. S. A., for losses incurred in his office as engineer of the 3d Light-house District through the forgeries committed by a clerk in his office, Henry J. Buetz (who has fled the country), in raising his official checks to amounts greater than those for which they were drawn and signed, between the 1st day of January and the 23d day of June, 1879, without any negligence or fault on the part of the said Colonel James O. Duane.

H. R. 2673, Mr. Charles O'Neill. To appoint Doctor A. P. Frick an assistant surgeon in the United States Army, with the rank of 1st lieutenant, to date from November 1, 1883; and the said Doctor A. P. Frick is hereby relieved from the operation of the twenty-eighth section of the act entitled "An act to increase and fix the military peace establishment of the United States," approved July 25, 1866.

H. R. 2706, Mr. Spooner. That in view of the total absence of promotion in the Corps of Judge-Advocates of the Army, the President is hereby authorized, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint and promote the two senior officers of said corps on the Army Register to the rank and grade of colonel and lieutenant-colonel, respectively, and hereafter to fill vacancies in said grades by promotion from said corps according to seniority, as required by the Army Regulations: *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall be construed to increase the number of officers in said corps as now fixed by law.

H. R. 2853, Mr. Barbour. That Pay Inspector James N. Carpenter, of the United States Navy, retired, be regarded as having been retired as a pay director on the 6th day of October, 1875, and that the accounting officers of the Treasury be, and they are hereby, authorized and directed to pay him the difference between the pay of an officer retired in that grade, from incapacity resulting in the line of duty, from said October 6, 1875, to March 7, 1879, and the pay which he actually received as on furlough and otherwise during that period.

H. R. 2884, Mr. Goff. To pay to William M. Maynard \$3,738.80



the amount paid by him into the Treasury of the United States in liquidation of a deficiency in his accounts as paymaster at Fort A. T., caused by robbery, committed by his clerk, D. D. Chandler, at Prescott, April 3, 1876, as shown by the finding and report of a board of inquiry appointed by General Kautz, commanding that military department, to investigate the circumstances of the loss; and also the further sum of \$100 paid by said Chandler for the arrest of Chandler; the restoration of both sums having been recommended by said board of inquiry.

H. R. 2977, Mr. Morton E. Post. To provide for the sale of abandoned and useless military reservations.

H. R. 3105, Mr. George R. Davis. Authorizing the Secretary of War to receive, for the period of one year from the passage of this act, from the late commanding officers of the United States troops serving in the War of the Rebellion, or from the senior officers now living, who participated in the actions or in the campaigns of said troops, reports of their respective commands; also of those officers who wish to correct errors in their original reports, or who can furnish additional information by more complete and detailed reports. The reports received in pursuance of this act shall be arranged and prepared, under the direction of the Secretary of War, for publication in a supplemental volume to series one of the History of the War now being prepared and published.

H. R. 3107, Mr. George R. Davis. Relating to officers of the Army. That whenever any commissioned officer of the Army below the rank of major shall have served under one commission, or, in case of having been transferred or appointed from the Volunteer to the Regular Service, or from one corps or arm of the Service to another, under more than one commission but in the same grade, for fifteen years, he shall be entitled to and shall receive the pay and allowances of the grade next above that in which he shall have served for at least five years without promotion. *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall authorize any increase in the rank or number of officers in the Army, or any corps or regiment thereof, as now allowed by law.

H. R. 3117, Mr. Finerty. To reorganize the infantry regiments of the Army of the United States, and for other purposes. *Be it enacted, etc.* That from and after the passage of this act each regiment of infantry shall consist of one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel, three majors (battalion commanders), one adjutant, one quartermaster, one sergeant-major, one quartermaster-sergeant, one chief musician, one principal musician, twenty-five band musicians (first, second and third-class), and three battalions of four companies each; a company to consist of one captain, two lieutenants (without distinction, except as regards their date of commission), one first sergeant, four sergeants, four corporals, two trumpeters, one artificer, one armorer, and fifty privates, except hereinafter provided for; a battalion to have, in addition to its four companies, one adjutant, one quartermaster, one sergeant-major, and one quartermaster-sergeant.

Sec. 2. That in time of peace each battalion shall be fully officered, but only two battalions manned; that in time of war or insurrection the President of the United States is hereby authorized to man the other battalion, and, at his discretion, to increase the strength of all the companies to one hundred enlisted men.

Sec. 3. That the Secretary of War is empowered to detail any of the officers of the unorganized battalions for recruiting service, or instructors at the West Point Military Academy, or at military State institutions, and so forth, as shall be necessary under the present laws; but these officers shall be returned after three of such service to duty with the troops, and others detailed in their stead; and no officers shall again be detailed for such duty until they have served three years with their proper commands; and any officers of the unorganized battalions not thus detached on other duty shall be stationed at their respective regimental headquarters, for purposes of instruction, and to supply the places of company officers of the manned battalions who may be temporarily detached for court-martial and other duties, or those who may be on leaves of absence.

Sec. 4. That the office of extra lieutenants for adjutants and quartermasters shall no longer exist, but that every regimental commander may select from the unorganized battalions of his regiment two captains to perform the duties of adjutant and quartermaster, and assign four lieutenants of the same to perform those duties with the manned battalions; but in the event of the third battalion being manned, the regimental commander may select any two captains of his regiment as adjutant and quartermaster, and the battalion commanders may select from their respective battalions two lieutenants to perform those duties.

Sec. 5. That all original vacancies created by this act shall be filled by the promotion of the officers senior in the line of their grade in the infantry arm of the service, but any vacancies in the grade of lieutenant caused by such promotion shall be filled as now provided by law, in order to complete the organization.

Sec. 6. That the pay of all lieutenants of infantry shall be one thousand five hundred dollars per annum, and for length of service as now provided by law; that the pay of trumpeters, artificers, and armorers, shall be sixteen dollars per month; corporals, twenty dollars per month; sergeants, twenty-five dollars per month; first sergeants, thirty dollars per month; five band musicians, first class, twenty dollars per month; eight of the second class, twenty dollars per month; and twelve of third class, eighteen dollars per month; and, with the exceptions enumerated above, the pay and allowances shall remain the same as now fixed by law.

Sec. 7. That in order to secure the reenlistment of good and well-instructed men in the Army, re-enlistments may be made for one, two, or three years, as the soldier may elect; and that upon re-enlistment for one year a furlough shall be granted for twenty days, for two years a furlough of forty days, and for three years a furlough of sixty days; and in all cases where furloughs are granted to re-enlisted men, transportation shall be furnished by the Government to their homes and back again to their proper stations, the transportation so furnished, however, to be in lieu of travel, pay and allowances on their discharge.

Sec. 8. That hereafter fuel shall be issued in kind to the officers of the Army, free of cost, in such quantities as may be decided upon, from time to time, by the Secretary of War.

H. R. 3113, Mr. Finerty. To regulate promotions in and to increase the efficiency of the Army of the United States. *Be it enacted, etc.* That all officers of the Army below the rank of colonel, and having served continuously for sixteen years in one grade, and, if a lieutenant, as first and second lieutenant for that period, shall receive promotion to the higher grade, and be assigned to place, as vacancies may occur, in order of their promotion. *Provided*, That nothing herein shall serve to disturb the relative rank of such officers as at present established and that service under the promotion thus conferred shall, for the purpose of this section, date from attainment to place under the provision of this section: *And provided further*, That the whole number of officers in any arm of the Service shall not be increased thereby.

H. R. 3211, Mr. Hunt. *Provides*, That the Secretary of the Navy is authorized and directed to establish a navy-yard and depot of supplies on the Mississippi River at Algiers, or in its immediate vicinity, for the construction, repair, equipment, outfit, and supply of vessels and water and sea-coast defenses. To use any unoccupied land and property belonging to the United States, and adapted to the purposes of this act, in the locality indicated; and in the event that the Government possesses none, to purchase such quantity of land as he may deem necessary; \$5,000 being appropriated to carry out the purposes of this act.

H. R. 3226, Mr. Talbot. That there be, and is hereby, appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$750 to pay and indemnify Dennis W. Mulvan, a Commander in the United States Navy, for the loss of his baggage and naval outfit on November 23, 1863, off the coast of Texas; while under orders from the Navy Department to join the United States Steamer *Monongahela*.

H. R. 3242, Mr. Morse. Authorizing the sale of the naval hospital at Chelsea, Massachusetts, at public auction the net proceeds to be placed to the credit of the naval-hospital fund.

H. R. 3298, Mr. Buckner. Giving all volunteer service officers below a brigadier-general, who continued in service to the close of the late civil war, or who were discharged from the service because their services were no longer needed, three months pay proper.

H. R. 3373, Mr. Jordan. To give Doctors Waters, Brown, Hubbard, Brooke, Gardner, Smart, Harvey E. Brown, Middleton, McElderry, Tremaine, Caldwell, Bentley, and Lippincott, U. S. A.,

to the rank and place in said Medical Department, and the pay to which they are entitled and which they would have held had the law of promotion according to seniority under the act of March 3, 1871, and the regulations been carried out, to take position on the Army Register, in the order above named, next after John W. Williams. *Provided*, That no officer shall by this act be reduced in rank, nor shall anything in this be construed as to permanently increase the number of surgeons with the rank of major.

H. R. 3399, Mr. Farmer. To organize the Chiefs of Bureaus of the Navy Department into a Naval Advisory Board.

That the Secretary of the Navy is hereby empowered and directed to organize a board of officers for his advice and assistance, to be called the Naval Advisory Board.

Sec. 2. That said Board shall consist of the Secretary of the Navy, ex officio president, and of the Chiefs of the now existing Bureaus of the Navy Department, and two persons of established reputation and standing as experts in naval architecture and marine engine construction, to be selected from civil life, who shall be nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate, holding their position for a period of four years, with the same compensation as is paid to other Bureau Chiefs in the Navy Department.

Sec. 3. That the Secretary of the Navy, or in his absence the Acting Secretary of the Navy, shall call the Board together not less than once a week, and as such officer as may be necessary for the transaction of business.

Sec. 4. That no work of any kind relating to the designing, building, or repairing of hulls of vessels, their boilers, machinery, armament, equipment, or other outfit of any vessel of the Navy, shall be commenced until the kind and character of the work upon new vessels has been decided upon, and the plans and specifications in detail for hull, engines, boiler, armament, and outfit, submitted to the Board for its information, or if for old vessels, until the report of the Board that surveyed them has been placed before the Chiefs of the Bureau having cognizance of the work, and not then unless they are approved by three-fourths of the members of the Board and by the Secretary of the Navy; and after such plans, specifications, or repairs have been approved of and contracts made, or orders given if done in the navy yards, no change shall be made during the progress of the work, whether under such contract or otherwise, when the cost of such change would exceed \$100, except upon the approval of three-fourths of the members of said Board and the Secretary of the Navy, and by the written order of the Chief of the Bureau having cognizance of the same; and in the case of work done by contract with private builders, if changes are thus made, the actual cost thereof and the damage caused thereby shall be ascertained, estimated, and determined by said Board, or a majority thereof, as to the amount of the increased or diminished compensation said contractor shall be entitled to receive, if any, in consequence of such change or changes.

Sec. 5. That before any new vessels are built the Secretary of the Navy shall, by proper public advertisement and notice, invite any party or parties having plans, models, or designs of any vessels that they may propose to have built, or of any part thereof, within a period of three months, to submit the same to said board; and it shall be the duty of said board to carefully and fully examine the same, and to hear any proper explanations thereof, and to place on file, in writing, whether, in their opinion, any such model, plan, design, or suggestion is worthy of adoption in the construction of such vessel or vessels, their engines, boilers, armament, or equipment; and if, in such construction, any such plan, model, design, or suggestion shall be adopted for the use of which any citizen not an officer of the Navy would have a just claim for compensation, the contractor or contractors shall bind himself or themselves to discharge the Government from all liability on account of such adoption and use.

Sec. 6. That no docks, ships, wharves, or buildings shall be decided upon, located, or commenced in any Navy-yard until the plans and proposed location are first submitted to and approved by three-fourths of the members of the board, and receive the approval of the Secretary of the Navy.

Sec. 7. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act be hereby repealed.

H. R. 3403, Mr. Barr. To place the name of Assistant Engineer Howard D. Potts, United States Navy, on the retired list for disability incurred "in the line of duty," and readjust his pay accounts accordingly.

H. R. 3517, Mr. Covington. To appoint Wm. C. Spencer a captain in the infantry service of the Army, and to assign him to the first vacancy occurring in that grade in any regiment of infantry after such appointment; *Provided*, That, if he shall deem it proper, the President may, instead of appointing him, the said Spencer a captain upon the active list, appoint him to the same rank, upon the retired list. [Spencer resigned as captain 17th Infantry, December 11, 1863, after seven years' service. He was appointed from Maryland.]

H. R. 3533, Mr. Kelley. Recites the distinguished war service of George W. Gile, lieutenant colonel, United States Army, and that, for some reason, the pension which he does not appear he was reduced to a lieutenant colonel by the act passed March 3, 1875, and thereby implying a reproach upon the stainless record of a soldier whose wounds have resulted in partial paralysis; therefore, *Be it enacted, etc.* That the said George W. Gile be, and is hereby, exempted from the operations of said act of March 3, 1875, and that the President is hereby authorized to restore to the said George W. Gile the rank of colonel of infantry on the retired list of the Army, to take effect on the date of the above act of March 3, 1875.

H. R. 3553, Mr. Caldwell. To give Rear Admiral Samuel P. Carter the pay and compensation of a rear admiral on the retired list from and after the date of his promotion on the retired list as a rear admiral.

H. R. 3587, Mr. Finerty. To confer brevet promotion on officers of the United States Army particularly distinguished by heroic action in Indian wars, and for other purposes.

*Whereas*, Section 1209 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, approved March 1, 1869, and relating to the organization of the Army, in the following language, to wit: "The President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, may, in time of war, confer commissions by brevet upon commissioned officers of the Army for distinguished conduct and public services in presence of the enemy," has been in practice virtually abrogated by the Senate of the United States in referring to confer nominations for brevet promotions on the ground that warfare against Indian tribes does not come within the meaning of the section quoted; and

*Whereas*, Many officers of the Regular Army of the United States, and who are still in active service, greatly distinguished themselves in Indian battles, where the large percentage of loss sustained gave evidence of the danger attendant upon such duty; and

*Whereas*, The esprit du corps of both officers and enlisted men of the Army would be advanced by some public recognition of their heroism and devotion: Therefore,

*Be it enacted, etc.* That section 1209 of the Revised Statutes shall, on and after the passage of this act, be made applicable to every officer of the Army below the actual rank of brigadier general, and who has not been previously brevetted to that rank, and who may be recommended by the commanding officer of the expedition, for brevet promotion to the grade next above that in which he is actually commissioned, on account of heroic conduct in battle against hostile Indians, either on or outside of the territory of the United States.

Sec. 2. That the foregoing section shall comprehend every officer still on the active list who has particularly distinguished himself in action with Indians since the abrogation of the brevet privilege: *Provided, however*, That his brevet commission, when issued, shall bear date only from the passage of this act: *And provided further*, That the date of the particular heroic act for which he is promoted shall appear in his commission.

Sec. 3. That brevet rank shall be considered strictly honorary, and shall confer no privilege of precedence or command not already provided for in the statutes which embody the rules and articles governing the Army of the United States.

Sec. 4. That non-commissioned officers and privates of the Army who, on and after the passage of this act, may distinguish themselves by extraordinary bravery in Indian battles, shall, on recommendation of their ranking commanding officer present in the field, be entitled to the maximum of pay allowed for length of service in their respective grades; and further, shall be entitled to compete for commissions in the Army before a board of officers, when, if they should pass a successful examination,

they shall be considered in the line of promotion next after the cadets who have graduated at the United States Military Academy.

Sec. 5. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

H. R. 3660, Mr. Findlay. To amend section 4234 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, so as to require all sail vessels to provide themselves with signal-lights, under regulations to be prescribed by the board of inspectors, and for other purposes.

H. R. 3670, Mr. Yapple. That John Bannister, a first lieutenant on the retired list of the Army, by reason of the loss of his right arm, be placed on the retired list of the Army as a captain of cavalry, he being in command of a company of cavalry at the time of receiving such disability; and the President is hereby authorized to carry out the provisions of this act.

H. R. 3671, Mr. Catcheon. To commission Edmund G. Fochet a captain in the 8th Regiment of Cavalry, to date from the 23d day of May, 1870, that being the date his present commission as captain would have dated had not an error been made in the first arrangement of the lieutenants of said regiment; *Provided*, That the issuing of such commission shall not entitle said Fochet to any extra pay or compensation.

H. R. 3690, Mr. Ryan. To restore S. S. Robinson, late of the 16th United States Infantry, to the Army, and place him on the retired list.

H. R. 3769, Mr. Kelley. To appoint Jared W. Dillman, late an assistant surgeon in the U. S. Navy, to be an Assistant Surgeon in the Navy, and place him on the retired list, with the same credits as to length of service as had at the time of his discharge.

H. R. 3814, Mr. Barbour. To promote the efficiency of the Army is an exact copy of the bill, with the same title, introduced by Mr. Harmer, H. R. 2613, published last week, p. 493.

H. R. 3837, Mr. Rankin (by Mr. Jones, of Wisconsin). To reinstate the name of James W. Schauburg on the Army list, and for his relief.

H. R. 3885, Mr. Healey. Changing the arsenal at Benecia, Cal. into an arsenal of construction and manufacture.

H. R. 3960, Mr. Sumner. That, in order to prevent the Signal Service from losing the services of officers who have been and now are engaged upon the valuable work of weather predictions, the President may be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint to the rank of captain, Signal Corps, U. S. A., such officers of the Army who have passed the requisite examinations, and by the verifications of whose published weather predictions, have shown themselves to be skilled meteorologists, they to receive the rank, pay, and allowances of that grade.

### THE FITZ-JOHN PORTER DEBATE.

It is difficult to say anything new upon a subject so thoroughly discussed as that of Fitz-John Porter. The reports for and against the bill for his reinstatement in both houses, have been copies of those presented to a previous Congress, with the addition of the recent contribution to the discussion by General Grant. The debates have been in the main a mere rehearsal of what is already known. In fact, General Slocum who had charge of the bill in the House, got so tired of hearing the same old story over again, that he was indiscreet enough to tell his colleagues, with a soldier's bluntness, that they were incapable of judging of the subject, which naturally brought a storm about his ears. He said, as reported:

The people of the United States for the last twenty years have been laboring under the impression that General Grant, General Schofield, General Terry, and others of that class knew something about military matters. It has become apparent to me in this discussion that the people are entirely mistaken; and that no more profitable thing can be done than for Congress to sit here and tell the world how much they know about military matters. If the members of Congress would only tell Grant and Sherman and Schofield and other such men all they know about military matters you could dispense with the military men and abolish the Army.

Mr. Ezra B. Taylor—I wish to ask the gentleman from New York, if we do not know about this matter how can we decide it.

Mr. Slocum—No sir; there are not ten men in this House who know any more about it to-day than they did yesterday morning.

Mr. Ezra B. Taylor—The gentleman does not understand me. I understood him to speak ironically as to the knowledge of members of this House. I ask him in good faith, if we do not know how can we decide?

Mr. Slocum—There never was such an absurdity perpetrated in any representative body as has been enacted here, for three hundred gentlemen knowing nothing about military matters to sit here and gravely discuss subjects about which they know nothing whatever and never can know. [Laughter and applause.]

Mr. Ezra B. Taylor. Well, sir, what do we come here for.

Mr. John S. Wise—I am here as an utter stranger to the case, and supposed that we would be called upon to vote intelligently upon it. But if that gentleman is in earnest in saying that we do not know anything about it and never will know anything about it, then I am disposed to vote to let the judgment of the Court-martial stand—because they were supposed to know something about such matters. [Laughter and applause on the Republican side.]

Mr. Slocum—What I meant by my statement was simply this: That this House of Representatives is composed of men who never made a study of military matters and they are incompetent to understand these questions [renewed laughter], utterly incompetent.

Mr. Miller, of Pennsylvania—Oh, yes; nobody but a West-Pointer can understand anything about military affairs.

Mr. Slocum—The idea of a man standing here and talking about the effect of directing a brigade to move in on the left, or a division to go in on the right, when ninety-nine out of one hundred men that he is talking to do not know whether a brigade is larger or smaller than a division, is utterly absurd.

Mr. Miller, of Pennsylvania—What did you bring the bill in here for, then?

Mr. Horr—Why bring the bill before such a set of ignoramuses?

Mr. Slocum—The gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Horr] says, "Why did you bring the bill in here?" We did not bring the bill here. James A. Garfield, in the Forty-third Congress, introduced a resolution to bring this bill here. [Laughter on the Republican side and cries of "Oh, no!"] Look at your record. He is the author of that bill; it came from his own recommendation.



Mr. Horr—That is not so.  
 Mr. Slocum—That is the way the bill came here.  
 Many Members—Oh, no!  
 The Chairman—The committee will come to order.  
 Mr. Calkins—If the gentleman from New York [Mr. Slocum] can not kill this bill we can not.  
 Mr. Slocum—Gen. Garfield, while a member of this House, introduced a resolution for the appointment of this board upon whose report we are acting to-day.  
 Mr. Ezra B. Taylor said:

Whether it is wise to send a brigade in here, or a division in there, in a military way, I will frankly say that I do not know. But I do know this: I can tell from this evidence whether or not the night of the 27th of August, 1862, was a dark night as well as can Gen. Grant or the gentleman from New York [Mr. Slocum.] I can tell whether the road between Warrenton Junction and Bristol Station, so far as the evidence goes, was incumbered with wagons as well as though I had been President of the United States. I can tell whether Longstreet's forces were in front of Porter on that day as well as any other man, though I was not in the Army, except in that humble capacity filled by the private soldiers, that class of military men who were not regarded in the beginning nor long remembered, but out of whose fidelity and bravery grew upon other shoulders bars and stars. [Applause.] When it is suggested to me as a member of this House that I am incompetent to come to a conclusion on this question, I deny it. I am, as a member here, the peer of any other man. If I cannot decide this question I will not make a mockery of myself and my action by voting upon it. [Applause.]

In another portion of his remarks Mr. Slocum said: I wish to make it apparent to every member of this House that in the heat and excitement of a civil war the purest and ablest officer is liable to be stricken down without cause.

At the close of the war one wing of Sherman's Army was commanded by General Logan and the other by myself. I wish to remind the old soldiers of that Army that the very weapons used to strike down Porter were wielded by the same hands against Sherman; and it is my firm conviction that had not the war been brought to a successful close immediately after Sherman's treaty with Johnston an attempt would have been made to place his name side by side with that of Fitz-John Porter.

While I admit that in time of war, and in places where the powers of civil courts are suspended, Courts-martial are a necessity, yet I regret to say that in no country and in no age have these courts been regarded either as safe or as worthy of confidence as civil tribunals. To the lack of confidence in such courts is due the hostility of our people to the extension of martial law over places where civil courts can be maintained. To the same cause must be attributed the course of one of our late Chief Magistrates, in habitually reversing the findings of these courts. Officers sentenced to dismissal for the most disgraceful offences were in many instances restored to the Army, greatly to the demoralization of the service.

If this case had been tried before a civil court with all safeguards thrown around the accused which the civil law guarantees to him, and had been reviewed by a higher court, authorized to examine the evidence as well as the legal points involved, and had the case been entirely free from political prejudice, every lawyer on this floor would say at once that the decision of the higher court should be final. But the case was tried by a court-martial where the accused had no safe guards.

But the practice in military courts has made no such progress. The court-martial of to-day is precisely what it was two centuries ago. The executive prefers the charges, selects the court, appoints the judge-advocate, and passes judgment upon the proceedings. If, in the progress of a court-martial, a question arises as to the admissibility of evidence, the accused, with his counsel, is ordered from the room, and the prosecuting attorney is left alone with the court. No arguments can be heard from either the accused or his counsel on the vital points on which the case may turn.

On more than twenty occasions during the proceedings of the court-martial which tried Fitz-John Porter, General Porter and his counsel, Reverdy Johnson, were turned out of doors, and the counsel of the Government alone left to argue the case with the court. And I say no such thing was ever heard of in a civil tribunal, and I hope to God it never will be. [Applause on the Democratic side.]

Mr. Taylor called attention to the fact that the judge-advocate remained in the court-room for the sole purpose of making up the record.

Mr. Slocum. What is theoretically the duty of the judge-advocate and what he is in practice are two quite different things. Let me remind the gentleman that Judge Holt, who was appointed the prosecuting attorney in this case, had never been in military life until he was made judge-advocate to prosecute this very man.

Mr. Calkins. Is that anything against him, if he was a good lawyer, appointed from civil life?

Mr. Slocum. If the theory is, as has been suggested by the gentleman, that the judge-advocate has nothing to do, I would like to know why Judge Holt was appointed to try this one case, and why he got on the retired list of the Army as a General for trying the case, and stays there to-day as a General?

That was a pretty good fee for a man who had no prejudices. [Laughter.]

Mr. Joseph D. Taylor. Does not the gentleman know that it is very common in military law for a judge-advocate to be appointed from civil life? Was not that done in many cases during the war?

Mr. Slocum. Certainly. Now, gentlemen, I come to another very striking point or incident in this case. When Pope's army got back here to Washington—within three or four days after it had arrived here it

began to be whispered around that Porter had not behaved well under Pope. Porter made immediate application to President Lincoln for a court of inquiry to investigate his case. I saw Porter a few days after he had made that application, and we all came to the conclusion that President Lincoln had ignored the application; that he had not granted Porter the court he asked for. Nobody ever dreamed anything to the contrary until fifteen years after Porter's conviction, when there turns up here in the War Department an order signed by President Lincoln at the time of the application, fifteen years before, and hidden away during all those years in the War Department. . . . A commission was also appointed for his trial, but for some reason, I do not know why, it was found that a court would be better, and then the court was ordered.

Mr. Steele in the course of his reply said: It has been said that Mr. Hallock preferred the charges. Look at the record of the court. Does that bear the gentleman from New York out in that statement? I have often heard it stated that charges were preferred by General Pope because his inspector-general signed the charges. But the record does not say "by command of General Pope." A court of inquiry was first ordered. President Lincoln issued an order for a court of inquiry, over his own signature, as the gentleman has stated; but a general who has lately departed, a good general and a just man, lately a Senator, with a great big heart in him (Burnside?), doubting as to whether Mr. Porter was guilty of treachery or not, having been his personal friend, went to the President in a time of our dire distress and appealed to him personally, for his own sake and for the sake of the country, to release Mr. Porter from arrest and let him go on with the army.

A military commission, at the earnest request of General Pope, was afterward ordered. It was ordered after he had gone to the Department of the Northwest. He had made a report which was suppressed, as it was thought for the good of the country. But a military commission was finally ordered to investigate the charges made in the report. When it came to examine General Pope's report it concluded the sentence it could impose would be inadequate to the offense, should he be found guilty. So Brig. Gen. of Volunteers B. S. Roberts, inspector-general on Pope's staff during the battles down there in Virginia, preferred the charges after General Pope had ceased to command the army. If Pope had been in command of the army it would not have been competent for him to have preferred the charges, for the reason that no officer in command can prefer charges, organize a court, and pass upon its sentence. But General Pope was entirely removed from this department, and had nothing to do with this army. His inspector or himself would have been impotent to prefer the charges while he commanded the Army of Virginia.

You are dealing in dreams, my friend; but since you are indulging in dreams, let me tell you of my own dreaming upon the subject for a little while. I dreamed that after all the evidence in this case had gone in that jury of officers had retired that there was solemnity in that body for a few moments that would be hard to describe, and finally this man (General Hitchcock) who claimed Porter as his protégé said: "Gentlemen, there can be but one verdict," and they all agreed to that; they all said the same thing. There could be but one verdict; but a milder-mannered man on that court than he said that sentence so severe would mean for this man to go scot free. "Within the limit of the law we are enabled to give a milder sentence," and a milder sentence was given. My dream, Mr. Chairman, is no more reasonable than that of the gentleman who says the court is five to four, and if you do not believe me, then go on and constitute your civil tribunal and bring me before it any other member of that court to say whether my dream is or is not true.

Referring to the board, Mr. Steele said: Schfield was aspiring to be the President of this great country; Randolph carried New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania in his breeches pocket—

Mr. Rosecrans. Do I understand the gentleman from Indiana to say that General Schofield desired to be President?

Mr. Steele—You understand me to say that nothing would have given his heart more gratitude to this people. [Laughter.]

Mr. Rosecrans—I understood the honorable gentleman from Indiana to say that General Schofield was a candidate for the Presidency?

Mr. Steele—I did not say so.

Mr. Rosecrans—Then you said he was an aspirant, I believe?

Mr. Steele—I stated that he was an aspirant, and I repeat that nothing would have given his heart greater satisfaction, and his friends understand it to be the fact that he would like to have been complimented with the nomination.

Mr. Rosecrans—I beg to say, with all respect to this House, that I do not understand any such thing.

Mr. Steele—Not now you do not understand it so; but then did you not understand it to be true?

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

We are in receipt of a printed pamphlet, "Information for Soldiers who Desire to Learn How to Shoot," prepared by Colonel Guy V. Henry, for the use of his troops at Fort Sill, I. T. In a clear, concise manner information is imparted on all the points necessary in firing. He claims nothing original, but a compilation from text-books not always accessible to the soldier, and the results of his experience on the range. It would be well if every soldier could have a copy of this little guide to shooting, which, if followed, would lead to good results. General Drum, Adjutant-General, in acknowledging receipt of Col. Henry's book, writes: "Your pamphlet on 'How to Shoot' I feel quite sure will go far as an aid in that direction." Capt. Manning, Inspector of Rifle Practice, Dept. of the Mo., writes: "I have received your excellent pamphlet of information, 'How to Shoot,' etc. I have had time only to read portions of the latter, which I like very much. It is concise and simple."

#### THE STATE TROOPS.

SEVENTH NEW YORK.—Col. Emmons Clark.—The order announcing the result of rifle practice in 1883 has just been issued. The statistical information contained therein, the names of marksmen, their scores, the regimental and company percentages, etc., having already appeared in full in the JOURNAL, we need only give the following remarks by Col. Clark which accompany the order: "At the end of the year the Commandant congratulates the Regiment upon its increased numerical strength, its drill and discipline, its esprit de corps, and its general prosperity. The uniformly successful career of this Regiment for a period of nearly sixty years justifies the belief that it has been managed upon correct principles, and that no new military devices or experimental changes are required to continue its usefulness or promote its welfare. Earnest, faithful and intelligent effort for military improvement is as necessary in the future as in the past; to make the association attractive and the military service a pleasure to young men is equally indispensable, and to promote and encourage pride in the corps and devotion to its interests is constantly an imperative duty. The progress and improvement in rifle practice during the present year deserves special notice and commendation."

The interest and zeal in the performance of duty shown by the regiment deserve commendation indeed, and the turnouts at last week's company drill, by companies B (Steele's) with 42, I (Casey's) with 41, and F (Appleton's) with 40 files, are signs of a healthy condition of the regiment and worthy of special mention.

Company H, Capt. J. L. Price, had 24 files on the floor for drill on Friday evening, January 18, under command of Lieut. Mills, Captain Price and several members of the company being engaged at the rifle range in the contest for the Abel Trophy. After a thorough inspection the company started off with a nicely performed march in fours around the hall, formed into line, and then executed several wheels which, though creditable, would bear improvement in the alignment as well as in regard to the shuffling way of marching in the vicinity of the pivot, a habit into which men seem to drop naturally when drilling on a boarded floor, and the correction of which needs, therefore, constant and sharp looking after. The oblique in fours were well executed, and the various formations of line on the right and left were performed with commendable precision and promptness. A march by fours, a wheel into line, an advance across the hall and a wheel—all executed in double time also deserve favorable mention, nor could any fault be found with the manual on the march, passages from double into single rank and vice versa, and several wheels in single rank, while the breaking of fours to the rear and re-formation into line seemed to be thoroughly understood. These movements, repeated numerous times, and the manual, formed the programme of the evening, and were on general principles satisfactorily executed. During one wheel we noticed both guides at the carry, the guide on the marching flank coming to that position when the wheel commenced, which is not tactical.

Company A, Captain Conover, on the same evening, was out with 28 files, under command of Lieut. Eisk, who, after inspection, had a short manual; then started off with a march by fours and proceeded to the wheeling, the latter being rather unsatisfactorily executed—line crooked and touch of elbows lost, although the step on the pivot was firmer than in Company H. Of these there were many repetitions all with indifferent result. Then followed a number of marches, in single rank distance, by fours and in line with varied success, showing that the company is not yet quite reliable in this respect. We learn that the defects were mainly due to the presence of seven men in the ranks who had just come from the equad. It is proper to state that the Lieutenant appeared aware of the faulty execution of these movements, and that he was very active in his endeavor to correct them. Having gone through some double timing, oblique, formations of line on the right and left, and some more wheels, with little improvements, Captain Conover made his appearance and assumed command. He continued the drill in the same manner, and after a while, when the men had become thoroughly warmed up, they became more steady and the drill improved. The manual on the march was very good, and towards the end the whole drill showed visible improvement. Of the manual standing we can give no fair account, as it was executed in the farthest corner of the hall, the men facing away from the main entrance. All the companies have the same habit in this respect, the reason for which no outside follow can understand.

TWELFTH NEW YORK.—Col. James H. Jones.—The left wing, companies B, F, E and I, with twelve files front, (the color company having several vacant files in the rear rank,) were instructed in battalion movements by Col. Jones, on Friday, 18th. A large delegation of 7th Regiment men came to witness the debut of Captain Eagle. The formation was spoiled by an error of the right company, B, the captain passing beyond the markers and rear of the color company. The colonel checked the march of this company, and it was wheeled about by fours and assumed its proper place in line. We invite the attention of Lieut. Bylan, who commanded the color company, to paragraph 756, Tactics. In rendering honors with troops, officers execute the present. As at the drill of the right wing, particular attention was paid to distances and step in the column of fours by Major Riker and the adjutant. From the column of fours frequent marches by the flank of companies and divisions, with repeated changes of direction, and several advances in line of battle, were executed with regular and well sustained alignments. The column of fours executed several formations of line on right and left in a very creditable manner, the new major being apparently well posted and active in placing guides. Few errors were observed during this portion of the drill—men steady and silent in ranks, and new officers watchful of commands and prompt in executing them. They first came to grief at right of companies rear into column. Twelve files present a short front, even in an armory, and an officer, if ever so experienced, must be very vigilant in order to catch the right moment for giving the command for the fours to wheel into line, and it is therefore not to be wondered at that the second and third companies passed invariably fully six yards beyond their proper places before the company front was formed. This movement, after a wheel into line, was repeated very unsatisfactorily a number of times, the junior captains on each occasion failing to judge the distance correctly. Close column movements were then taken up, with ployments on the right and left, by companies and divisions. In one of these, "on first division right in front," from a march in column of fours, the captain of the left company particularly did not seem to understand the movement. He advanced with the company in cad of standing fast, so as to dress when disengaged, while in one of the ployments, right in front, the right company commander spoiled the movement by standing fast and ordering the dress instead of advancing, causing the color company (F) to get jumbled together. The deployments on right, left, and interior companies were, as a rule, well executed. One of the principal errors in these movements was the lack



of promptness in giving orders on the part of the new company commanders. They depended too much on the orders of the Colonel, and frequently the men were at fault as to the direction to take. There is no doubt, however, that both Capt. Eagle and Lieut. Boylan, who had command of a company for the first time, will soon correct the mistakes made on this occasion. The formations of close column from column of fours on the march were all fairly performed, but in reforming column of fours much distance was lost by want of promptness in the commands on the part of captains. The manual was on about the same scale as that of the right wing, the advantage being slightly in favor of the left, especially in the loadings and firings. Some of the volleys by battalion and rank were delivered with snap and precision. It would be hardly just to the new officers to compare this drill with that of the right wing, but it is true that the men on this occasion were more steady, and showing better discipline and attention. The defects of guides and the closers noticed in the right wing were equally pronounced, and like those in the other wing, they deserve "going for" by Col. Jones with a sharp stick. Both drills made the impression that the 12th is again a "live" organization and means to take a leading place in the National Guard of New York.

**Twenty-Second New York.**—Col. Josiah Porter.—A half dozen huge red-hot stoves were scorching everything in their vicinity in the 22d Regiment armory (more appropriately, barn) on Monday evening, January 21st, yet the room was icy cold, a mysterious, chilling blast came in from every direction and drove the spectators to hug the stoves only to be scorched on one side and chilled on the other, while the men on drill had to be kept in perpetual motion in order to keep up the circulation of their blood. To turn out for drill with a front of 20 files under such circumstances, therefore, reflects great credit upon officers and men of Company B. The exercises were a repetition of those of the previous drill night, and we are glad to learn that Captain King intends to continue practicing the company in guard-movement until the subject is completely understood, and in his efforts in that direction he seems to be enthusiastically supported by officers and men, and the improvement of this night's work over that of a week ago plainly showed. The whole company is evidently desirous to learn and they have taken every possible advantage of the points given them in our report on their drill of January 14th. A good deal of nervousness and timidity, which characterized all the participants on that occasion, has already disappeared, and the majority of errors indicated were corrected. We call the attention of acting first sergeants to the fact that custom of service and common sense require them to thoroughly inspect their details before marching them on, and for this purpose they should set their muskets aside while making the inspection. See our remarks on exhibition drill of 69th Regiment, November 4, 1882. A great deal of awkwardness could be avoided if 1st Sergeants in bringing up the details would not march them so far in rear of the alignment. If they would march them in prolongation of the line they could instantly halt where the left of the detail would rest, let it pass, and give the command two left at the proper time. As now done the details have to advance considerable distance after being brought in line, and during the advance the non-commissioned officers generally make painfully awkward exhibitions, because they don't know where to march or what to do with themselves. The march to the front and return to their posts by the non-commissioned officers was at last for once properly executed, only the left guide should not pass all the way around the right and rear of the guard in taking his position on the left. The short-cut way is the proper and correct one. The ceremony on this occasion included supernumeraries who, as well as first sergeants, performed their parts fairly. They do not, however, execute the carry and present with the guard, a fact which the officers should endeavor to impress fairly on their minds before next week's drill. As regards old and new officers of the guard, they should remember that the old guard presents three distinct times—first, to the new guard when it is passing; second, when the latter has taken its place on the right; and third, when the officer of the day comes. In each case the commander faces his guard when giving the command, and to the front when executing the present himself. The new guard presents twice—first, when it has been dressed after arriving on the right of the old; and second, to the officer of the day. The officer in executing these faces the same as the commander of the old guard. It would be well for officers to thoroughly understand this before the next experiment, and the ceremony of mounting the guard should be properly understood before proceeding to the posting of sentinels, etc.

**Twenty-Second New York.**—Col. George D. Scott.—The Eighth turned out for the first battalion drill of the season on Monday evening, January 21st, with eight companies of eight files front each, in a small looking, only half lighted hall, the gas pipes leading to the side lights being frozen. Col. Scott was in charge. The command was white gloves which set off the fair manual which began the drill to good advantage. This was followed by a march in column of fours which on account of the faulty cadence was quite protested before the men steadied down and ended by a wheel by march to the left, repeated several times in order to correct lack of promptness in stepping off, and when a proper execution had been secured the movement was repeated from the opposite flank, when again the 2nd and 3rd companies started off too late and caused it to be ordered over twice before it suited the Colonel, who next ordered right of divisions rear into column fairly executed except that several captains after halting their commands failed to step back the required two paces for dressing. A wheel into line to the right by division followed, which would have been quite good if all the left guides of companies had been on the line promptly. Close column of division movements and deployments followed; in the first deployments on 1st division to the left the guides being behind time and had to be called out. The various combinations of this series were executed in succession from time to time changing the company commanders so as to give the juniors a chance to practice as division commanders—a very sensible idea, and in this case carried out in a most successful manner. A large number of these division movements were executed in very fair shape—still we noticed some mistakes and especially in the case of a deployment on fourth division when the commander of the 3rd division, failing to give the 2nd division time to disengage, marched his command straight forward and thereby caused a collision which halted the movement. Repeating this passed off fairly. In a deployment from a double column formation the Lieutenant in command of the 3rd company in his attempt to deploy as from a close column of divisions got lost several times. The drill was however no worse than those we have witnessed in other armories; in fact it was a very good beginning of the season under the circumstances. The changing of commanders worked well and the junior officers mainly acquitted themselves in a manner that deserves credit. We would however recommend on their part more promptness and snap in giving commands and more distinctness and loudness in giving commands of execution. Of course, division movements were better executed when senior officers had command.

Joseph I. Dowling, a former captain of Company D, 13th Regiment, committed suicide at the Lafayette Hotel, Philadelphia, on Sunday, January 20th.

## NEW YORK ITEMS.

On Friday evening, January 18th, Brigadier-General Fitzgerald assembled the officers of the 8th Regiment in their armory for instruction. The meeting was fairly attended and the "pupils" appreciative and anxious for instruction. The General gave them hints in regard to proper and successful administration of companies, enforcement of discipline, the setting up of recruits, the keeping of records, etc.; called their attention to the importance of promptness in the rendition of returns and various other subjects, and then formed the officers in two ranks and instructed them in the handling of the sword—a matter which in this as well as many other regiments is neglected and can stand any amount of improvement, as is demonstrated on every public turnout of the National Guard. The officers of the 8th, who have not been called upon for anything of this sort since the death of the late Gen. Varian, seem to be much pleased with the visit of Gen. Fitzgerald. In several regiments, of late, an impression has gained ground that they are neglected by their superior officers, and there is nothing more demoralizing or detrimental to the proper development of an organization than such a feeling. We are, therefore, pleased to notice this step on the part of Gen. Fitzgerald, and hope that the rumor is true that he intends to instruct all the organizations in turn. To accomplish good results, however, remitting application is necessary, and a mere compliance with the letter of the code, which stipulates one annual visit for instruction to each regiment, will do no good. The 2d Brigade needs bracing up. General Fitzgerald is a graduate from the 7th Regiment, in which he held the important positions of Adjutant and Lieut.-Colonel, and he must, therefore, be familiar with the principles on which that regiment is managed, and to which Colonel Clark alludes in his order, which is printed in this column in the *Journal*. Would it not be well for the general to apply some of these principles in the management of this brigade?

Second Lieutenant J. T. Harper was chosen 1st, and Sergeant E. E. Sage, 2d Lieutenant of Company I, 7th Regiment, on January 10th. The resignation of Lieut. D. Chauncey, Jr., of the 7th, has been accepted.

Major H. H. Landon, of the 71st, has resigned. The 74th, at the parade for the marksmen's badges, showed much improvement since the appearance of the regiment at camp last summer, particularly in point of steadiness and military bearing of the men, and in the manual. The turnout at the presentation of the marksmen's badges was quite handsome.

Col. Wand has succeeded in eliminating nearly all the undesirable material from the corps of officers of the 65th, and the difference in the appearance of the regiment in the direction of improvement over last year is quite marked.

The 18th Regiment have not yet succeeded in getting a colonel. Lieut.-Col. Gales, who is still in command, is preparing an order for the resumption of battalion drills at an early date. It is intended to divide the command of these alternately between the regimental commander, the major, and the three senior captains. 2d Lieut. Sam. W. Smith, of Company E, was, on Monday evening, Jan. 21, elected 1st Lieutenant of Company C.

Major-General W. F. Rogers has appointed 1st Lieut. D. F. Sage, of the 10th U. S. Infantry, at Fort Porter, N. Y., Inspector of Rifle Practice of the 4th Division. Pascal P. Beale, formerly I. R. P. of the 4th Division, has been appointed Assistant General Inspector of Rifle Practice, with the rank of colonel, and that department now consists of Brig. Gen. C. F. Robbins, Colonels Bodine and Beale, Lieut. Col. Gillett and David Major Charles F. Beebe, who intends to remove to Portland, Oregon, having handed in his resignation. With the exception of a few separate companies which are behind in their returns, all the marksmen's badges have been distributed to the different organizations.

Quite a number of companies have been reported deficient by the rifle department on account of their failure to turn out the required percentage of men for rifle practice. As will be seen from the following statement, a large contingent of the delinquents belong to regiments whose claims and reputation would suggest a quite different result: 8th Regiment, Companies B, D, H and I; 9th Regiment, B, G, K; 10th Battalion, A and K; 11th Regiment, B and H; 12th Regiment, I; 13th Regiment, D, F, H and K; 14th Regiment, B, C, F, G, H, I, K; 23d Regiment, A, C, D, E, F, G, H and K; 32d Regiment, F; 47th Regiment, A, E, H, K; 69th Regiment, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H; 11th Regiment, B, F, H; and 4th, 11th, 12th, 15th, 20th, 24th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 31st, 32d, 34th and 37th Separate Companies.

Brig.-Gen. Ward, comdg. 1st Brigade, directs strict compliance with orders of Feb. 9, 1875, directing that as no good results can be attained in the school of the Company and "School of the Battalion" with smaller units than 16 and 12 files per company, instruction in the above schools is forbidden with less than the above fronts. For the School of the Company, with less than 20 and more than 16 men present, the command will be formed in single rank. With less than 16 present, exclusive of sergeants, the instruction will be confined to the school of the soldier, or the company may, at the discretion of the senior officer present, fall in with another company drilling on the same evening. In the same regiment. For the School of the Battalion, the number of companies will be reduced, or single rank formation used, until the fronts present a minimum of 12 files.

Sergeant Waldo Sprague, Co. C, 7th Regiment, was presented with a handsome gold watch, on Monday evening, January 21, by his associates on the Executive Committee of the 7th Regt. Gymnasium Association, in appreciation of his energy, etc., as manager. Sergeant Sprague served in the U. S. Army during the war as captain, and is one of the 7th's solid soldiers.

The 19th Separate Company, Brevet Major Wm. Hauenbuestel comdg., gave a grand ball masque at the armory, on January 18th. It was the largest affair in point of numbers, and the grandest success socially and financially, that has ever taken place among the military of Dutchess County. The grand march took place at 9 p. m., and was participated in by 186 couples. The armory was elegantly festooned with hanging evergreens and stars, and draped with many flags and colors. Along the walls were life-size crayons of prominent citizens, portraying them in various comical situations and representing a scene after dinner in camp on July 14, last, which created much merriment. All night everything passed off pleasantly, and a vote of thanks was unanimously tendered to the command.

The 15th Separate Company are right down to work, and their drum corps is rapidly improving. Capt. Berthold Myers is a hard working and painstaking officer and we trust all his efforts for improvement may be crowned with success.

Lieut.-Col. B. W. Mitchell, commanding the 14th, has issued orders towards the improvement of company drills which will, until further orders, be confined to the school of the soldier. Instructors are enjoined to use increased care in drilling their men, and one of the field or staff officers will be present on each drill night and report in writing upon the result of his observations.

Battalion drills in the Twenty-third will be ordered next month.

Company A, 23d Regiment, celebrated its 23d anniversary by a reception at the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, on Monday evening, Jan. 21st. The entertainment was handsome and well worthy of the company, which is one of the best in the 23d, and has a membership of nearly 100.

2d Lieut. L. A. Wilkinson, 40th Separate Company, and Capt. H. J. Richardson, Co. F, 47th Regiment, have resigned, and Lieut. F. J. Dickson has been elected Captain of Company A, 14th Regiment.

The 32d Regiment, to the tune of 200 strong, attended divine service on Sunday, January 20th.

The *Brooklyn Times*, in a recent article, calls General Molleux a "good theoretical tactician." The General is not only this but also a thoroughly practical tactician; and one of the most experienced soldiers in the field, as well as on the parade-ground, we ever had in the National Guard service.

There are several commissions due of officers who passed the Examining Board quite a long time ago. What is the matter at Albany? Are they asleep?

## ATHLETICS IN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

The second annual athletic games for the championship of the National Guard took place at the 13th Regiment Armory, Brooklyn, N. Y., on Tuesday evening, January 22, 1884, under the auspices of Company F of that regiment. There was a large number of spectators present, and the various competitions were

well contested. Considerable grumbling was indulged in by the competitors, who were assigned quarters in the prison-like stone vault in the cellar of the armory, used as a rifle range. The place was heated by a gas stove, and the air was exceedingly oppressive, affecting a person's breathing, and causing considerable distress in the chest, especially after a contest. A number of competitors were given pleasant quarters elsewhere, which distinction, as was claimed, was hardly the thing, especially as all had paid alike. In such case share and share alike is a good motto, and any departure from it only creates ill-feeling, which should be avoided. The following were the successful competitors. The track was 12 laps to the mile:

50-Yard Dash: First heat—J. I. Smith, Co. I, 7th Regt, 1st; J. F. Baker, A, 23d Regt, 2d; won easily; time 6 3/4 s. Second heat—J. E. Reanne, N. C. S., 13th Regt., 1st; R. L. Major, I, 7th Regt., 2d; won by a yard; time 6 1/2 s. Final heat—Reanne, I; Smith, 2; won by two feet; time 6 s.

220-Yard Run: First heat—M. B. Flynt, F, 13th Regt, 1st; C. S. Busse, 7th Regt, 2d; won easily; time 28 3/4 s. Second heat—H. W. Kraft, F, 13th Regt, 1st; F. G. Landon, F, 7th Regt, 2d; won easily; time 29 2/4 s. Final heat—Smith, I; Flynt, 2; won by 3 inches; time 27 3/4 s.

Quarter-Mile Run: E. A. Richards, 7 Regt, 1; H. O. Talmage, 7th Regt, 2; won easily; time 6 1/2 s.

Pole Vaulting: H. H. Baxter, Vermont N. G., 9 ft. 3 1/2 in.; 1; M. B. Flynt, 8 ft. 9 1/2 in.

Half Mile Run: E. A. Richards, I, 7th Regt, 1; H. W. Kraft, F, 13th Regt, 2; won by 2 ft.; time 2 m. 15 3/4 s.

1 Mile Walk: E. A. Kraft, F, 13th Regt, 7 m. 40 s.; 1; A. B. Bich, A, 7th Regt, 7 m. 51 1/2 s.; 2.

Running High Jump: E. E. Flynt, F, 13th Regt, 5 ft. 9 1/2 in. (off a block of wood); J. E. Reanne, N. C. S., 15th Regt, 2; H. H. Baxter, Vermont N. G. (off the floor), 5 ft. 8 in.

200-Yard Hurdle Race: First heat—S. P. Wiley, H, 23d Regt, 1; H. O. Talmage, I, 7th Regt, 2; won easily; time 32 3/4 s. Second heat—J. I. Smith, I, 7th Regt, 1; M. B. Flynt, I, 13th Regt, 2; won easily; time 33 4/5 s. Final heat—Smith, I; Wiley, 2; won easily; time 31 s.

Mile Run: H. S. Clark, K, 7th Regt, 1; George W. Smith, C, 13th Regt, 2; won by 4 yards; time 5 m. 5 1/2 s.

Tug-of-War: The entries were Co. F and H, 13th Regt, the regular 13th Regt. team, and a team from the 14th N. Y. The tug was finally won, after an exciting pull, by the famous team from Co. F, 13th Regt., consisting of D. S. Lord, A. Rehage, J. Watson, Wm. Brockaw, and Geo. Pott, Jr.

The special contest between Myers, the champion short-distance runner, and Murray, the walker, Myers to run three-quarters of a mile against one-half a mile walk by Murray, was very exciting. Myers could not accomplish the task, and when Murray reached the goal, in 3 m. 5 s. Myers was one-twelfth of a mile short of the three-quarters. There were loud cheers at the finish.

After the games there was dancing. The largest number of points was made by the 7th Regiment men, and they received a finely upholstered chair as a special prize.

## CONNECTICUT.

The report of Adjutant-General Couch for 1883 deals mainly with the encampment, of which we gave a full report at the time. We give, however, the following extracts, which may be interesting. Gen. Couch states that—

The Connecticut National Guard is organized into a brigade, consisting of a light battery of four guns, four regiments of infantry, one from each Congressional District, and one battalion, colored, of infantry, a total of 2,391 men. The brigade is commanded by a brigadier-general having the full staff of his rank.

In arming and equipping its troops, the State has followed the system adopted by the General Government. A portion of the rifles, breech-loading, were drawn from the United States, and all take the same cartridge. During the past year now and improved cartridge boxes of the United States pattern have been issued to all but one regiment. Everything required for immediate service is in good shape, excepting the artillery harness, which should be replaced. The organization and administration is much the same as that of regulars.

It is only by associating with the Connecticut National Guard in camp that one can get a fair idea of the proficiency it has attained in military duties, and its probable reliability if called into active service.

Proceeding to the encampment he says:

Notwithstanding there was considerable cold and stormy weather, military men pronounced it to have been the most successful and strictly military encampment held under the present organization of the active militia. The routine of the past year was varied by the setting aside of one day to march into the country, taking loaded rations, blank cartridges, ambulances, with the accessories of an armed body on active service. The object of this movement was to practically instruct the brigade in marching, attack, defense, etc. The complete success of the day reflected much credit upon the participants. The general discipline of camp was good. In some matters it might have been improved; but it is not well to be too exacting. This body of over two thousand men lay alongside of Mianit, with its gardens and fruit yards, for one week, including a day's march in the country in the midst of loaded orchards, yet not five people complained of soldiers doing mischief in their foraging pranks. A good showing for any troops. Let it be understood that this creditable state of discipline has not been attained in a day, but only after years of persistent work of faithful officers, seconded by a devotion to duty no less commendable of the mass of the rank and file. The sanitary measures adopted and carried out were simply beyond all praise for their excellence. The growing tendency to construct buildings and make improvements of various kinds will, if not checked, turn the camp ground into a cantonment more suitable for permanent garrison service than to that of learning field duty. This is deprecated. As encampments are usually graced by the presence of friends and military guests, the many demands upon the hospitalities of members sometimes leads to over-indulgence in liquor. The true way of avoiding this evil is to follow the example of many of the best officers in banishing the bottle from their quarters.

Brigadier-General S. R. Smith, in his report of the camp, states as follows:

While the military efficiency of the line officers has very perceptibly improved during the past year as a whole, it is not, in a few cases, what it ought to be. Neither is it what we have a right confidently to expect in the future. The growing tendency of companies located singly in places outside of cities, where observation and comparisons cannot be made, seem to be satisfied with just enough knowledge of the tactics to enable them to drill their commands in the simplest movements possible only in small armories, and therefore when called upon to command their companies on battalion drill in the field, realize by their ignorance the value of their lost opportunities. There are other officers, for many years occupying the same positions in the service, who seem to be satisfied with their present position, and consequently neither study nor exhibit any ambition to know anything beyond the routine of the particular grade in which they are serving. When the test is applied, whether of examination for promotion or fitness for special duty in a sudden emergency, they will be found wanting.

During the past year great improvement in the drill and instruction of the Signal Corps was clearly evidenced, and upon many occasions during the encampment week the work called for was executed with the greatest satisfaction. In directing the movement of the different battalions upon the field day at Ft. Mianit, their services were found indispensable. Besides this field duty, the corps, under the direction of Major Charles L. Burdett, Engineer and Chief Signal Officer, maintained signal stations in the camp and village; erected telephone lines between important points, besides surveying in and about the camp, telegraphing, etc., etc.

After that he refers to the participation of the Connecticut troops in the Evacuation Day parade in New York City, as follows:

The brigade was assigned a very prominent position in the line, which was about five miles in length, and comprised nearly fifty thousand persons. The parade was made under the most unfavorable conditions of weather, the rain descending in tor-



rents during the entire day, and the streets being very muddy and slippery. Still I am happy to say that the marching of the men was excellent, and received hearty and continuous applause all along the route from the million or more of interested spectators. We were specially commended by the people, as well as by the press, for the solid and soldierly appearance presented, caused by our wearing the serviceable overcoat and fatigue cap, instead of the full dress uniformly worn on such parades of ceremony. Receptions, collations and courtesies of every description were lavished upon us by the Committee of Arrangements, the military of New York, and the citizens generally; and, while the discomforts were many, I have yet to learn of a single officer, or man, who regrets making the trip; on the contrary, I believe they are glad they had the opportunity to carry the good name of our brigade into another State, and to uphold it so efficiently and honorably.

#### THE NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Convention of the National Guard Association, which took place in the armory of Company B, 10th Battalion, at Albany, on Wednesday, January 23, was fairly attended, most of the delegates being from the 1st and 2d Divisions, every organization except the 9th Regiment being represented. The meeting proceeded to business at 11 A. M., and received the report of the committee appointed last year to devise a plan for the reduction of clerical labor, consisting of Colonel G. D. Scott, 8th Regiment (late), Captain John F. Cowan, 71st Regiment, and Adjutant W. J. Harding, 22d Regiment.

The report was received with universal favor and referred to the Adjutant General. Adjutant Harding, the author, received a vote of thanks. A strong committee, composed of two officers of each brigade, was then appointed to look after matters of law, amendment to the code, etc., with Colonel Porter, of the 22d, as chairman, and Colonel Clark, of the 7th, as one of the members. A resolution to prepare a bill to be put before Congress, asking for appropriations to properly arm and equip the seacoast forts with a view of instructing and arming the National Guard to their defence, was then adopted, and the meeting adjourned until 8 P. M., when they assembled in the Senate chamber, where General E. L. Molineux opened the proceedings by reading his paper on encampments.

Judge Advocate Gen. Horatio C. King then read a very interesting paper on "Military Law, and the Rights and Liabilities of National Guardsmen," which was favorably received, and followed by a treatise on signal duty by Major M. B. Farr. The following officers were elected: President, Col. Jas. McLeer, 14th Regt.; First Vice President, Brevet Major Horatio P. Stackpole, 10th Regt.; Second Vice President, Capt. James H. Parks, 9th Separate Co.; Recording Secretary, Col. A. B. Lawrence, 4th Division; Corresponding Secretary, Capt. J. L. Price, 7th Regt.; Treasurer, Col. C. E. Bridge, A. Q. M. General; Chaplain, Rev. O. H. Smith, 69th Regt.

We reserve our report of the matter discussed in the several papers presented for another week.

#### ARMS FOR THE MILITIA.

The following is the report upon the Senate bill, No. 156, to increase the annual appropriation for arms for the militia, adopted by the Senate Military Committee:

"That an appropriation fixed in 1808, to provide arms for 17 States with a population of eight millions is inadequate to provide arms for 38 States with a population of fifty millions needs no argu-

ment. The Chief of Ordnance has for many years urged Congress to increase the appropriation, and bills for this purpose were favorably reported to the Senate in the 45th and 47th Congress. In the report submitted to this session of Congress the Chief of Ordnance again urges the matter. The Secretary of War concurs in his recommendation and the President in his annual message commends it to Congress. The bill under consideration provides for the defects in the law to which attention is called in the President's message.

"It is also proper to observe that while this bill increases the annual appropriation it provides that each State shall be entitled to and only such proportion of the amount appropriated to it as the actual number of its active militia bears to a specified maximum. . . . In recommending the passage of the bill the committee are of the opinion that no money could be appropriated by Congress more advantageously, in view of the fact that the regular Army containing only 25,000 men is scattered over the entire country and especially in the Territories, so that in cases of necessity for the rapid assembling of a large force, reliance would have to be placed in the militia.

"A number of the States now have thoroughly equipped, organized and disciplined bodies of men; but this is done through annual appropriations made by the respective States with the exception of the present appropriation of \$200,000 annually, which appropriation was a large one when originally made, but is now wholly insufficient to provide arms for the militia of the several States. . . . The committee are of the further opinion that the increase of the appropriation to \$600,000 will encourage the States not now taking an active part in the necessary work of thorough organization in their militia to do so and that the benefits to be derived by the general Government will warrant the expenditure of the money."

#### We find the following in the London Engineer:

##### THE WATER-TIGHT SUBDIVISION OF STEAMSHIPS.

SIR:—The illustrations of the United States steamship *Chicago* in your this week's issue show an arrangement of dividing and making water-tight the coal bunkers along the sides. This seems to be an admirable arrangement for protection by coal from shot, and as giving a power or reserve of buoyancy for supporting the vessel in the event of injury to other portions of the hull by torpedoes or other destructive agents. I have for some time advocated this system of construction, which may be carried out in vessels without considerably interfering with their internal arrangements, or without any appreciable increase in cost in the construction; but, instead of making the coal bunkers water-tight as in the *Chicago*, I propose to make or construct these chambers or pockets within the vessel herself, and incorporated with and forming part of her structure, and to have water-tight trunks leading to all the holds and spaces of the chambers. If this principle of construction were more generally adopted, there would be one element given to the vessel for protection from foundering or sinking.

The principle might be introduced with advantage into vessels of the merchant service and mail steamers as protection from sinking, and if the *Austral*, so recently sunk through water entering her hold, had some arrangement of this kind in her construction she probably would not have so readily foundered. These casings, chambers, or sub-divisions along the sides, give not only protection from sinking, but also a reserve of buoyancy and stability for prevention from capsizing. They may be constructed of light plating and divided by partial bulkheads or diaphragms, and the spaces utilized, as in the *Chicago*, for storage of coal, mails, specie, passenger baggage, light and valuable cargo, and for other purposes of the ship as desired. The principle has been recorded in the Patent Office since 1873, and is one

worthy at least of adoption by the large mail and steamship companies, and for all kinds of war vessels, more especially to large armor clads.

CHARLESTON, S. E., Oct. 29.

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. asks: A company of infantry, deployed from double ranks on the skirmish line, the commander wishing to assemble it on the right or left flank, what numbered man on the right or left of the company is to be considered the proper one to form on? I hold it is the number four man in the front rank of either the right or left set of fours, as it may be determined to assemble on the right or left of the line. Which is right, or what is the "custom of the service"? Ans.—You are wrong. The assembly is made on the man on either the extreme right or left of the line. Paragraph 328 is very explicit and admits of only one interpretation, so that no custom of service needs to be applied. The right flank is the man on the right of the line, and the paragraph states plainly that the others form on his left in their order in two ranks—the front rank in front; and the same principle applies in assembling on the left flank.

G. F. R. L. asks: 1. How long has the 7th Cavalry been in Dakota and where is the regiment likely to be transferred next? 2. Where and for what price could I obtain a copy of the *Articles of War*? Ans.—1. Almost eleven years. G. O. 2. Hdqrs. Army, Feb. 8, 1873, ordered the regiment's transfer from the Department of the South to Dakota. 2. They are not usually for sale, but we might be able to obtain a copy for you.

Co. D asks the standing of each regiment from the report of 1883. Ans.—The question is vague, but assuming that you refer to the rating of the different organizations by the Inspector-General, Gen. Briggs has declared that he does not intend to publish a figure of merit, as was done by Gen. Oliver last year, which will no doubt be regretted by many of the regiments who went to camp last summer. The Inspector-General's report is before the Governor, but has not yet been published.

FRANK asks: What is the difference on duty between the Infantry and Marine Corps? What is the duty of the marines on board ship; how often do they mount guard in one week, and how long do they have to serve on board and on shore? Ans.—The duties on shore are much alike; on board ship guard duty is the principal requirement, and it is not especially heavy. There is no fixed limit for time of service on shore and afloat.

R. A. asks: Where can I obtain a good manual of sword exercise? Ans.—Van Nostrand, of 23 Murray street, can supply you with a copy of O'Rourke's "Sword Exercise" for \$2.

The list of military monuments in London is given as follows: Two statues of the Duke of Wellington, one in front of the Royal Exchange, by Chantrey, and the other by Wyatt, a monstrous colossus, lately on top of Decimus Burton's arch at Hyde Park Corner. Lord Nelson at the summit of the well-known column in Charing Cross, the statues of Havelock by Boehm, and of Napier by Adams; those of Lord Clyde by Marochetti, and Sir John Burgoyne by Boehm in the garden of Carlton Terrace, and Sir James Outram on the Thames Embankment; the military trophy, in commemoration of the Crimean war, of three guardsmen surmounted by a gigantic Victory holding out wreaths in both hands, and the Achilles in Hyde Park.

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Subjects:  
Shakespeare,  
Lt.-Gen. Sheridan,  
Dickens,  
Keats,  
Orleans Princes  
Fielding,  
Dante,  
Courbet,  
Rembrandt.

Sheep Farming,  
Convict Labor,  
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GEN. "Chinese" Gordon has found time to write a theological treatise, which is to be revised by a Prebendary of the Church of England, and then published.

SOME 30 years ago, an effort was made in the British Navy to substitute tea for grog, but Jack would have none of it. Grog itself (that is to say, rum and water, which appears to be what grog originally signified) was once an alteration in the ration very much distasteful to Jack when it was made. He had been accustomed to consume his rum raw, or at any rate to receive his allowance undiluted, and to deal with it as he pleased, and bitter and contemptuous was his denunciation of the new-fangled and "lubberly" grog. The new mixture was introduced by Admiral Vernon, who had been long known in the service as "Old Grog," because he wore a program breeches. So Jack, in the bitterness of his soul, bestowed on the emasculated drink the name of its author and introducer.

Cook's Imperial Champagne is an excellent wine in every respect. Mons. O. Girard, Chief Chemist of the Laboratoire Paris, analyzed it for Minister Noyes, U. S. Legation, and certified it to be equal in quality to the best Champagnes

of France. Cook's Imperial of St. Louis, cost one-third less than the best Foreign Champagne. It has taken the premiums in Europe, the United States and Canada, and comparative analysis has proved it the purest, having no artificial bouquet.

## MARRIED.

BARRY-BESTOR.—At St. John's Church, Washington, D. C., January 23, 1884, Lieutenant THOMAS H. BARRY, 1st U. S. Infantry, to Miss ELLIE BESTOR.

CLAGETT-BLACK.—On Tuesday, January 15, 1884, at the residence of the bride's parents, Fort Union, N. M., by the Rev. J. A. M. La Tourrette, Lieut. J. ROZIER CLAGETT, 23d U. S. Infantry, to CORNELIA M., daughter of Colonel H. M. Black, 23d U. S. Infantry.

GUIRERAS-FROLL.—At the residence of the bride's parents, January 21, Passed Assistant Surgeon D. M. GUIRERAS, U. S. Navy, to LAURA M. FROLL.

VREELAND-TOLSON.—At San Francisco, January 16, Lieutenant O. V. VREELAND, U. S. N., to Miss TOLSON.

WILDER-MARTIN.—At Willowbrook, near Auburn, N. Y., January 16, by the Rev. B. C. Morse, Lieut. W. E. WILDER, 4th U. S.

Cavalry, to Miss VIOLET BLAIR MARTIN, daughter of the late T. Throop Martin.

## DIED.

ADAMS.—At Philadelphia, January 18, 1884, the Hon. GREEN ADAMS.

CROGHAN.—At Oakland, California, January 16, 1884, in her 90th year, SERENA ELIZA LIVINGSTON CROGHAN, widow of the late Colonel George Croghan, U. S. Army.

ENGLE.—At Crawfordsville, Indiana, Dec. 26, 1883, JOHN B. ENGLE, formerly Captain 15th U. S. Infantry.

GRIFFING.—At Philadelphia, Jan. 17, MARY F. H., daughter of Paymaster George H. Griffing, U. S. Navy.

HUNT.—At New Haven, Conn., Jan. 21, Commodore TIMOTHY A. HUNT, U. S. Navy, retired.

MAGRUDER.—At Florence, Italy, January 1, HENRIETTA H. MAGRUDER, widow of General John Bankhead Magruder, formerly of the 1st U. S. Artillery.

RECTOR.—At Carondelet, Mo., January 20, Mrs. FANNIE M. RECTOR, daughter of General Pittman Morrison, U. S. Army, retired.

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## STATEMENT

OF

## THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK.

F. S. WINSTON, President.

For the year ending December 31st, 1883.

ASSETS.....\$101,148,248.25.

## Annuity Account.

No.	ANN. PAY'TS.	No.	ANN. PAY'TS.
Annuities in force, Jan. 1st, 1883. 55	\$19,200 91	Annuities in force, Jan. 1st, 1884. 61	\$23,134 31
Premium Annuities..... 3,712 44		Premium Annuities..... 3,674 96	
Annuities Issued..... 7	4,433 40	Annuities Terminated..... 1	537 48
62	\$27,346 75	62	\$27,346 75

## Insurance Account.

No.	AMOUNT.	No.	AMOUNT.
Policies in force, Jan. 1st, 1883. 106,214	\$329,554,174	Policies in force, Jan. 1st, 1884. 110,990	\$342,946,032
Risks Assumed..... 11,531	37,810,597	Risks Terminated..... 6,755	24,418,739
117,745	\$367,364,771	117,745	\$367,364,771

## Revenue Account.

Dr.	Cr.
To Balance from last account..... \$32,782,986 08	By paid Death Claims..... \$5,095,795 00
" Premiums received..... 13,457,928 44	" " Matured Endowments..... 2,866,261 73
" Interest and Rents..... 5,042,964 45	Total claims—
	" " Annuities..... 27,661 38
	" " Dividends..... 3,138,491 69
	" " Surrendered Policies and Addi-
	tions..... 2,831,150 71
	Total paid Policy-holders—
	" " Commissions, (payment of
	current and extinguishment
	of future,)..... 886,126 90
	" " Premium charged off on Se-
	curities Purchased..... 405,472 22
	" " Taxes and Assessments..... 226,057 69
	" " Expenses..... 834,752 79
	" " Balance to New Account..... 94,972,108 86
	\$111,283,878 97

Dr.	Cr.
To Reserve at four per cent..... \$95,571,877 00	By Bonds Secured by Mortgages on
" Claims by death not yet due..... 908,635 00	Real Estate..... \$46,303,472 34
" Premiums paid in advance..... 22,794 35	" United States and other Bonds... 25,279,040 00
" Agents' Balances..... 8,479 56	" Loans on Collaterals..... 15,037,910 00
" Surplus and Contingent Guarantee	" Real Estate..... 8,633,971 89
Fund..... 4,636,469 34	" Cash in Banks and Trust Com-
	panies at interest..... 3,403,249 63
	" Interest accrued..... 1,310,588 23
	" Premiums deferred, quarterly and
	semi-annual..... 1,039,229 68
	" Premiums in transit, principally
	for December..... 140,786 48
	\$101,148,248 25

NOTE.—If the New York Standard of four and a half per cent Interest be used, the Surplus is over \$12,000,000.  
From the Surplus, as appears in the Balance Sheet, a dividend will be apportioned to each participating Policy which shall be in force at its anniversary in 1884.

THE PREMIUM RATES CHARGED FOR INSURANCE IN THIS COMPANY WERE REDUCED IN 1879 ABOUT 15 PER CENT ON ORDINARY LIFE POLICIES.

ASSETS.....\$101,148,248 25  
New York, January 18, 1884.

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## Thirty-Sixth Annual Statement

OF THE

## PENN

Mutual Life Ins. Co.,  
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Net Assets, January 1, 1883.....\$7,894,738.45  
Receipts during the year:  
For Premiums.....\$1,507,896.06  
For Interest, etc..... 463,567.60 1,971,463.66  
\$9,865,202.01

Net Assets, January 1, 1884.....\$8,406,879.48

## Assets.

City Loans, R. R., and Water Bonds,  
Bank and other Stocks.....\$4,126,128.86  
Mortgages and Ground Rents..... 1,986,995.78  
Premium Notes secured by Policies,  
etc..... 651,297.15  
Loans on Collaterals, etc..... 661,306.96  
Home Office and Real Estate bought  
to secure Loans..... 831,207.96  
Cash in Trust Companies and on hand 149,443.84  
Net Ledger Assets as above.....\$8,406,879.48  
Net Deferred and Unreported Prem-  
iums..... 142,325.96  
Interest due and accrued, etc..... 46,570.95  
Market Value of Stocks, Bonds, etc.,  
and Real Estate over cost..... 416,624.36  
Gross Assets, January 1, 1884.....\$9,011,898.58

## Liabilities.

Losses reported, but not  
due.....\$130,524.07  
Reserve at 4 per cent. to  
reinsure risks.....7,423,606.90  
Surplus on Life Rate En-  
dowments, and Unreport-  
ed Policies, etc..... 180,668.46  
Surplus, 4 per cent. basis, 1,307,702.05  
\$9,011,898.58

Surplus at 4 1/2 per cent.  
Pennsylvania Standard, \$1,786,808.05  
(Estimated.)

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NEW REGULATIONS

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